

Desert ho!

Waterboys, Gay Naturists International to meet in Palm Springs, Cathedral City.

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Bay Area goes Oscar wild

Charity galas planned in San Francisco and Napa.

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Academy of Dunces

Hit and miss for this year's nominations.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

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PACHA's Dr. Scott Hitt

Clinton needed by AIDS advisors

by Bob Roehr

Frustration with the Clinton administration over needle exchange exploded in a Washington news conference and letter to the president on Tuesday, March 17. The surprising aspect to this tale is that the challenge was issued by a supposed lapdog, the Clinton appointed Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA).

"We unanimously express 'no confidence' in the administration's commitment and willingness to achieve the president's stated goal of 'reducing the number of new infections annually until there are no new infections,'" it urged Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala "to issue an immediate determination declaring the efficacy of needle exchange programs in preventing the spread of HIV while not encouraging the use of illegal drugs."

PACHA laid out the list of scientific and professional groups that have again and again stated this to be the case. "We must conclude that it is lack of political will, not scientific evidence, that is creating this failure to act. This political treatment of a public health issue is killing people, and it must cease."

"Mr. President, the time for study and delay is over. The science is indisputable, and the time for your action is now," said chairman R. Scott Hitt, MD.

Researchers believe that a nationally-funded needle exchange program could prevent at least 10,000 of the 40,000 new HIV infections each year. By that computation, delay by the Clinton administration has resulted in more than 50,000 HIV infections that could have been prevented. This

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Murder on Mission Street

Victim's friends recall vibrant spirit; others tell of crime scene, hospital drama

by Mark Mardon

Close friends of Brian Wilmes, the gay San Francisco resident who died Saturday after being assaulted last Thursday night outside the Loading Dock bar on Mission Street, describe the 45-year-old ex-banker as a big, bold, red-headed Irish-American, generous to a fault, fun-loving and insightful, who had many friends, was an avid motorcyclist, often gave anonymously to multiple charities, loved to entertain, and used any excuse, no matter how small, to celebrate.

"Brian was always out and open" about his gay lifestyle, said Scott Price, who was Wilmes's friend for 23 years. "His parents were very supportive. They accepted his lover, Bruce, who died a few years ago from AIDS. They'd spend all major holidays together every year, especially Christmas. They used to go on vacations together. They're totally devastated."

Wilmes, who only recently had retired from a 19-year career with Bank of America to start his own business, moved to San Francisco in 1974. He and Price met at the Elephant Walk on 18th and Castro, where Sylvester was performing. With crowds overflowing into the street, passions were high. The two became lovers for a time.

Eventually, however, Wilmes met his long-time companion, Bruce Seaboch, with whom he lived for 15 years.

"He's touched a lot of people's lives in many ways," said Price, who notes he's been inundated with condolence messages conveyed by phone and Internet.

Price was among those with Wilmes at the end, when Wilmes lay comatose in a bed at the California Pacific Medical Center.

"The very compassionate staff made it clear there really wasn't anything they could do," Price said. "There was bleeding in the brain they couldn't correct. The pressure was building up. They stabilized him until the family members arrived."

Wilmes is survived by his parents, brother, sister-in-law, and two nephews.

From Thursday night to Saturday afternoon, as friends and family members stood vigil in the hospital room, a team of physicians, including a neurologist, monitored Wilmes's increasingly diminishing vital signs. At 5 p.m. on Saturday, the doctors declared him brain dead.

"They made the decision to take him off life support," Price said.

'My quirky friend'

That moment ended the life of an active member of the leather community (he earned many awards for his involvement)



Murder victim Brian Wilmes

and a proudly gay man admired and looked up to by many, especially Elliott Eaton, 31, of Alameda.

"He likes to mentor. I consider him a mentor," said Eaton, who at times on Monday still spoke of Wilmes in the present tense, as though Wilmes were still very much alive. Eaton said that since meeting Wilmes about four years ago, the older man had become like a father to him. Up to the time of the assault, Eaton had been living at Wilmes's house.

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Where are the whistles?

CUAV admits it does 'way too little'

by Cynthia Laird

In the aftermath of last Thursday's fatal attack on a gay city resident outside a local bar, San Francisco's anti-gay violence agency Community United Against Violence (CUAV) admitted it does "way too little" in terms of having a widespread whistle campaign in place. In fact, no such program currently exists, and that has some activists and at least one supervisor scratching their heads in amazement.

Lester Olmstead-Rose, CUAV's executive director, told the Bay Area Reporter on Tuesday, March 17 that while the agency does have whistles, it only distributes them on a limited basis, usually when doing a presentation.

He said that CUAV is funded to provide a variety of programs, which is confirmed by the agency's 1995 federal Form 990 tax return indicating CUAV spent \$317,355 on assorted violence prevention services for the 1995-96 fiscal year. "Whistle campaigns" is listed, along with "...conducting community workshops on violence prevention, distributing safety information, organizing neighborhood watch programs, and initiating other activities to promote public awareness."

Olmstead-Rose said that a breakdown of that \$317,355 included \$256,000 for a youth job training program, of which \$150,000 was contracted to other agencies as part of the grant. The agency's decision not to actively promote a whistle distribution program was

made in part because the remaining \$60,000 or so was largely spent on CUAV's speakers bureau, which Olmstead-Rose said is most effective when it comes to changing people's minds about anti-gay violence.

About \$2,000 was spent specifically on whistle campaigns.

Olmstead-Rose estimated it would cost CUAV between \$30,000 and \$40,000 to get a whistle campaign up and running as soon as possible. Of that, \$20,000 would go toward whistles, some of the money would go toward

printing small cards to distribute with them, and the rest would cover a part-time staff position to coordinate distribution in local gay bars, merchants, and the community.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who called for a renewed whistle campaign in the wake of last week's tragedy, said if the agency gets a budget to him, "I'd be happy to support it."

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Lester Olmstead-Rose

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Hernández to speak on nonprofit accountability

by Cynthia Laird

As the issue of accountability and the nonprofit sector has expanded beyond AIDS service organizations to other nonprofits, Dr. Sandra Hernández, director and chief executive officer of the San Francisco Foundation, will address the topic this Wednesday, March 25. Hernández, the city's former health director and a Latina lesbian, will give a keynote presentation at a meeting of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, where she will talk about the recent calls for sunshine laws covering nonprofit organizations.

A task force convened by Supervisor Tom Ammiano released recommendations on Friday, March 6, covering four key issues: general evaluations; public access to boards and records; public access to meetings; and city appointed observers to nonprofit boards. Ammiano is working with the City Attorney's office to draft legislation and has requested a hearing as soon as possible before the board's Finance Committee. The supervisor's task force was a diverse group of 20 people and included activists, nonprofit board



Dr. Sandra Hernández

members, and executives.

At the upcoming Commonwealth Club's nonprofit study section forum, Hernández is expected to talk about the issues addressed by Ammiano's task force, as well as recent concerns about grant-making processes of nonprofits. The forum is being co-sponsored by the Management Center.

The San Francisco Foundation, which Hernández took over last August, is a regional community fund dedicated to improving

the quality of life, promoting equality of opportunity, and assisting those in need or at risk in the Bay Area. With assets of about \$320 million, it is one of the largest community foundations in the country.

The Management Center is one of Northern California's leading providers of nonprofit management assistance. For over 20 years the center has been helping an array of nonprofit agencies. In partnership with the Commonwealth Club, the Management Center sponsors the monthly nonprofit study section, a presentation series focusing on the contributions of the social enterprise sector — nonprofits, foundations, philanthropy, and volunteerism — to society. ▼

Reservations are recommended for the forum and can be made by calling (415) 597-6705. The meeting starts with a reception at 4:15 p.m.; the meeting begins at 5:15 p.m. at the Commonwealth Club, 595 Market Street, second floor. The cost is \$6 for Commonwealth Club members and \$3 for nonprofit staff and board members.

QYTC offers gay kids jobs and training

by Eric M. Rose

On April 28-29, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth between the ages of 13 and 17 will have an opportunity to learn resume writing and interviewing skills through a workshop offered by the Queer Youth Training Collaborative (QYTC). Formerly known as Proactive Youth, QYTC has been offering youth job training and placement for over five years.

"The main order of business is that we provide employment and job training for queer youth," QYTC Program Director Karyin Tham told the B.A.R. "Within that, we run classes in resume writing and interviewing skills for the public." The job application skills classes are offered periodically throughout the year and offer a \$15 per day stipend to participating youth.

QYTC also offers year-round job placement and training in the

nonprofit sector, where participants first receive several weeks of job training before being placed within one of five participating organizations: Bay Area Youth Positives, the Center for Young Women's Development, Community United Against Violence (CUAV), the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC), and New Village. The entire process usually lasts from three to five months, but participants can also be rehired for up to a year. The positions pay between \$6-\$10 per hour because, Tham said, the collective is very concerned that the youth make a reasonable living wage.

"We usually serve between 150-200 youth a year," Tham said, "but we only hire about 30-40 a year. The training they receive depends on the agency, as each of the agencies has a slightly different training curriculum."

The program is only open to youth ages 13-17 because of funding from Proposition J, which defines a youth as a person under 18.

Participants must also currently reside in San Francisco and, although the program's primary outreach is to queer youth, anyone may apply regardless of sexual orientation.

"Our focus is on queer youth, but between 30-40 percent are self-identified as straight. But then a year down the road, some of those youth come back to us and say they've since come out," Tham said.

QYTC does outreach mainly through community events, such as youth conferences, and also through schools and community-based agencies. "We're always looking for queer youth. This is a collaborative, which means once they get involved, they have access to five agencies and their resources," Tham added. ▼

Youth interested in participating in either the upcoming skills workshop or in the job training and placement program should contact the QYTC at 357-1307.

SFAF board meets Wednesday — Call by Tuesday to attend; Monday to speak

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, March 25 from 5:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the foundation's office, 10 United Nations Plaza at the corner of Market and Seventh streets. It is near the Civic Center Muni/BART station.

To attend the board meeting, people must notify the board chair by calling the board liaison

at (415) 487-3053 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The request should include the name of the person wishing to attend and a contact phone number. The board chair will review the request and contact the person before the meeting.

The SFAF's policy states that members of the public are welcome to address the board. To do this, people must call the board li-

aison at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Include in the request the topic and time requested to present information to the board, a contact name, and phone number.

The request will be reviewed and, when appropriate, members of the public will be invited. If a request cannot be honored, the board chair will identify an alternative form of communication with the organization. ▼

HIV-disabled student fights City College

by Mark Mardon

As if Kelly James didn't have enough to contend with as a person living with AIDS, the last trial he wanted to endure was having to fight bureaucracy at City College of San Francisco to obtain basic services for disabled persons.

This past January, when James, 28, decided to return as a student to City College for the first time since bouncing back from an AIDS-related illness that forced him to drop out of classes in the spring of 1995, he learned the school offered special counseling and computer-access to people with disabilities. Naturally, since James was still dealing with complications from his illness, and has been certified as disabled by the Social Security Administration, he decided to apply.

The procedure seemed easy enough. He obtained the requisite application form and started to fill it out, but balked after realizing it asked more about his condition than he was willing to share. James was shocked to discover the college's "Disability Verification" form required him to describe his disability and functional limitations, and to list the medications and dosages he was taking.

Moreover, he would have to sign a release form allowing the college to turn his medical records over to the state for inspection.

When James consulted with his doctor on the matter, the two agreed it would be best to omit from the form most of the information required by the college, to protect James's privacy.

"We purposely eliminated their list of prescribed medications and dosages," said James. He did not want such information to become part of his school record, much less get into the hands of the state.

"It's no one's business which drugs I take," said James, noting that the only special services he was seeking — access to a computer room reserved for disabled persons (a valuable service, since other computer rooms are constantly crowded), and consulta-



City College student Kelly James

tions with a counselor — are general services offered to all disabled students, regardless of their medical condition. Disability certification would also allow him excused absences for those times when his illness prevented him from getting out of bed to go to class.

Rather than submit such a detailed form, James tendered his federal proof of disability from the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability and International Operations. That document merely affirmed James's disability without specifying its nature.

Unfortunately, that document wasn't acceptable to City College's Office of Affirmative Action. That office's associate director, Linda R. Jackson, quoted several sections of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, stating in great, legalistic detail why the college required the verification information James was challenging.

James said the college dismissed his contention that federal law, under the Americans With Disabilities Act, supersedes Title 5. Moreover, he contends Title 5 regulations do not require a list of diseases, medications, dosages, and access to medical records. That latter point is at the heart of James's challenge to the college.

The college, however, is sticking to its guns, and so is James.

"My last resort is to sue the college," James said. "I have no other choice."

"The disability office should be

there only to help students, not the state," he said. "In this case, their only purpose has been to hurt the student." He added that the conflict with the college is affecting his health: "The worst thing is the stress will kill my T-cells. No student needs stress, and an HIV/AIDS student definitely doesn't need stress."

James says he is "not a political activist," but he has presented his case at meetings of the campus Bi-Gala queer club, where he learned other HIV-positive students feel similarly uncomfortable with the disability application.

"I know a handful of people who won't go through with the application," James said. "They have to refuse the service."

James acknowledged that fighting the college forces him to forfeit his privacy in a big way. But, he said, "To publicly state I'm HIV positive, and give details of my condition to the press, is my choice," and is very different than being compelled by an administrative bureaucracy to disclose details against his will.

City College's Linda Jackson told the B.A.R. the matter "is one of those difficult situations, because the law is very clear about not disclosing information about people who have disability issues." She said she could not discuss the case "because it would be a breach of confidentiality." ▼

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Von Beroldingen gets central committee endorsement in race for judge

by Cynthia Laird

Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen won the endorsement of the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee at its meeting Wednesday, March 11, continuing the momentum of the judge's reelection for the June election, her campaign has announced. Von Beroldingen, a 20-year veteran of the court and a former San Francisco supervisor, won the endorsement over her challenger, openly lesbian candidate Nancy Davis.

"The central committee's endorsement confirmed what I, and many of my supporters, have been saying since Nancy Davis first announced she was challenging me. I have a depth and breadth of experience the people of San Francisco will not find in another candidate," said von Beroldingen following the vote. "As a lifelong Democrat, I appreciate the endorsement of the central committee."

Von Beroldingen was appointed judge to the San Francisco Municipal Court in 1977 by former Governor Jerry Brown; she has been reelected three times since



Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen

then. She has said that if elected in June, this will be her final term on the bench. This is the first time she has been challenged in a judicial election. Prior to her appointment to the bench, von Beroldingen served for 11 years as a supervisor; she was appointed by former Mayor John Shelley in 1966 and was the third woman to serve on the board. She was the first woman to chair the board's powerful Budget and Finance Committee, a post she held for 10 years.

Von Beroldingen has a long history of serving the gay community; she was the first political candidate in the city to make regular campaign appearances in gay bars around the city. In the 1970s she was one of the first city officials to attend and support the organizational meetings of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and she actively campaigned for the late Supervisor Harvey Milk. In 1973, von Beroldingen appointed the late Jo Daly, a leading lesbian activist, to the Advisory CATV Task Force. It was the first appointment of an openly gay city commissioner. The judge was also the first woman appointed to the Civil Service Commission and in 1964 was a founding member and first vice president of the Economic Opportunity Council.

In addition to the endorsement of the central committee, von Beroldingen has also been endorsed by the FDR Democratic Club, the Sheriff's Association, United States Senator Dianne Feinstein, Mayor Willie Brown, state Senators John Burton and Quentin Kopp, and Assemblyman Kevin Shelley. ▼

Milk Club's endorsements criticized

by Cynthia Laird

Openly lesbian San Francisco Supervisor Leslie Katz is blasting the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club for failing to endorse a number of queer candidates for the upcoming June primary, particularly representatives to the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee. The Milk Club's endorsement meeting was Tuesday, March 17, and while Katz was one of the central committee candidates the club did not endorse, she told the B.A.R. the issue is not just about her.

"It's so incredibly short-sighted," Katz said of the Milk Club's endorsements, adding Supervisor Sue Bierman, a longtime supporter of the gay community, was not endorsed either. Katz expressed dismay that the club missed an opportunity by failing to endorse its first transgender candidate, Robert Haaland, a former aide to Supervisor Jose Medina.

Milk Club President Criss Romero told the B.A.R. that the feeling of the club's political action committee (PAC), which came up with recommendations that the membership voted on, wanted to send a new message. "The tone of the day was we wanted to see more people from community and grassroots organizations, instead of office holders. It was nothing personal."

Romero confirmed that the club did not even endorse 12 candidates (the number of seats available) for the 12th district representatives to the central committee. There are about 87 people running for the combined 24 seats, and many of them are gay.

Katz doesn't buy that, and maintained the club is miffed at Mayor Willie Brown, who appointed Katz to the board. As a result, a number of openly gay central committee candidates were not endorsed, including Michael Colbruno, Dean Goodwin, and Rebecca Prozan, who work in the mayor's office, and Redevelopment Commissioner Mark Dun-

lop. Neither were Victor Marquez, Tony Leone, or Martha Knutzen. Katz said she has supported the club in various ways since becoming a supervisor, including co-sponsorship of the landmark equal benefits law that was brought to the board by the club. The mayor signed the law and has steadfastly supported it.

"He was unflagging with the Catholic Church," she said, referring to Brown's negotiations with Archbishop William Levada that led to a successful resolution of the church's city contractors coming into compliance with the law. "The Milk Club is not advocating for queers, they're advocating for themselves," said Katz.

Colbruno said he understands the Milk Club may have a second vote, since it did not make 12 endorsements for the 12th Assembly District representatives to the county committee. He added that one of his concerns is that the club endorsed a number of heterosexual candidates when there

are a historic number of queer people running.

Prozan said, "It was a very difficult endorsement; with so many candidates, it was hard to get the 60 percent."

Katz was also critical of the club's endorsement of ballot initiatives sponsored by State Senator Quentin Kopp, the feisty independent who has not always been supportive of the queer community.

"All of these years of fighting to gain power, and they're tossing it out," said Katz. "Plus, it empowers Kopp; like he's going to be there for us after the vote."

Added Goodwin, "Obviously the choice was difficult because there were over 40 candidates for each district and a lot of votes were required to reach 60 percent. It was unfortunate that it was not made more clear to some of the voters who the out queer candidates were, but I feel confident that in the next runoff, more representation from our community will be selected." ▼

Seventh MoonSisters Drum Camp coming to Sausalito

by Vicky Kolakowski

The seventh MoonSisters Drum Camp will be held April 3-5 at the Point Bonita Conference Center in Sausalito. Led by Yolanda and Claudia Vierra Allen of Mother River Spirit and a team of experienced drum teachers from several traditions, the camp includes classes for a variety of drums and experience levels. The camp is open to all women and girls interested in exploring the spiritual power of drumming as a cross cultural activist healing tool to overcome racism and lesbophobia through self-empowerment and mutual encouragement and support.

Mother River Spirit is a feminist/womynist multiracial, cultural, ethnic, interfaith activist net-

work affiliated with the Northwest District of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, utilizing a variety of workshops and cultural events to promote diversity, overcome racism, and honor women's spirituality. ▼

Women interested in attending should call Mother River Spirit at (510) 547-8386 or e-mail at MoonSistah@aol.com. The cost of registration until March 20 will be \$215, and after March 20 will be \$240. All fees must be paid in full by March 27. Vendors interested in participating in a marketplace at the camp on Saturday April 4 should contact Mother River Spirit immediately; the vendor deadline is March 20.

Deadline looms for persecuted gays seeking asylum in U.S.

by Mark Mardon

A change in United States immigration law, due to take effect on April 1, could mean many gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and HIV-positive immigrants to this nation, who seek to escape persecution for their sexuality or HIV status in their own countries, could lose the chance to secure asylum in the U.S. if they fail to apply before the deadline.

Under the new law, those immigrants who have been in the U.S. for more than one year will become ineligible to apply for asylum. Only newcomers, in the country for under a year, will be allowed to apply.

The Gay and Lesbian Asylum Project is urging those immigrants who have been in the U.S. for more than a year to act promptly to secure asylum before the old immigration law expires in less than two weeks.

Those seeking asylum in the U.S. must be able to prove they were persecuted for their sexuality or HIV status in their home country, or demonstrate a reasonable fear of persecution if forced to return home.

Sharon Dulberg, an immigration lawyer with McVey & Mullery, said that when she and her colleague, Roger Doughty, realized the new law would have



Sharon Dulberg

greater impact on the queer community than on any other group, they began contacting "every gay-sounding immigrant group we could find" to get the word out about the impending deadline. They also began training a group of lawyers willing to work pro bono to assist asylum seekers. Nearly 45 attorneys, many of them with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, are participating in the project.

The fact is, said Dulberg, "Outreach has been tough. It's hard to reach closeted gay immigrants. People who arrive in this country don't declare their sexuality when they cross the border."

"Not everyone coming to the

U.S., or has already come here, knows they can apply for asylum based on sex orientation," added Sydney Levy of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, one of the co-sponsors of the Asylum Project. "Particularly when they're persecuted for their orientation by their own government, they're understandably reluctant to go to the government of another country to apply."

Such reluctance indicates why the new U.S. immigration law's one-year time-frame for asylum applications is less reasonable for queers than for non-queers. Overcoming the fear of declaring one's sexuality or HIV status, then doing the legwork necessary for filing an asylum application, could take well over a year for many queers and HIV-positive people.

"One year is not enough," said Levy, "but for now we have this tiny window for asylum." ▼

To learn if they have a valid claim, and to file at least a skeletal application form to preserve their rights, asylum-seekers are advised to immediately contact either the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission at (415) 255-8680, or the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights at (415) 543-9444.

Concert tonight, AIDS discussion Friday Cuban confab at Berkeley

by Cynthia Laird

The Cuban response to HIV/AIDS will be one of many issues addressed during a three-day conference entitled "A Dialogue with Cuba," which starts Thursday, March 19 (today) and continues through Saturday, March 21 at the University of California, Berkeley. The HIV/AIDS session on Friday, March 20 will be moderated by Dr. Marc Sapir of Oakland and feature as a panelist Dr. Jorge Pérez Avila, director of the Havana AIDS Sanitarium and vice director of the Pedro Khouri Institute for Tropical Medicine.

The conference will begin with the "Hot Cuban All-Star Concert" tonight at 8 p.m. at the Berkeley Community Theater. Award-winning Cuban jazz artist Jane Bunnett and Carlos Varela, Cuba's most popular youthful singer and songwriter, are scheduled to be featured performers. Pulitzer-prize winning writer Alice Walker will give a poetry reading along with Nancy Morejon, one of Cuba's leading poets.

Dr. Juan Reardon, a founder of USA/Cuba InfoMed, said the conference will offer an excellent opportunity for interested gays and lesbians to find out more about Cuba, particularly since Pope John Paul II visited the country earlier this year. "A Dialogue with

Cuba' will be a rare opportunity to find out more about Cuba, and about how ... they're confronting issues of gay rights; of HIV/AIDS, policy, treatment, research, and care. Some 20 guests from diverse fields are invited," Reardon said.

One of those guests is expected to be Gisela Arandia, a journalist and researcher who appeared in Sonja De Vries's film *Gay Cuba*; and Dr. Pedro Lopez Saura, chief of the clinical trials division of the Center for Biological Research.

Reardon said the early government response to HIV/AIDS in Cuba was to quarantine PWAs while providing the utmost in medical care and diet for those affected. He said that some progressive changes have developed relating to gay and lesbian rights in Cuba. People living with HIV/AIDS are no longer quarantined and Cuba is searching for an AIDS vaccine. Less than 2,000 of the 11 million Cubans have tested positive for the HIV virus, he added.

The health of the nation

"Unfortunately, the new drugs for HIV are not available to Cubans because of the U.S. blockade," said Reardon, adding the Cuban response to the epidemic was opposite of the American response. "The early response to AIDS in the U.S. was inextricably linked to a fight for civil rights. In Cuba, the response to HIV/AIDS

was inextricably linked to the fight for the health of the whole nation, which already saw itself under attack."

The conference will provide a chance for people to hear directly from Cubans. "With rare exceptions, American news coverage of Cuba has been very slanted," Reardon said. One of the Saturday sessions is entitled "As we Depict Each Other: The Media's Portrayal of the U.S. and Cuba."

In addition to HIV/AIDS, other topics scheduled for Friday will include "Urban Planning and Environmental Policy," "Race, Racism, and Society," "U.S.-Cuba Relations," and "Religion, the State, and the Visit of Pope John Paul II."

Saturday starts off with a plenary session entitled "The Sociology of Sport." Other topics covered that day will include youth, filmmaking, literature, agriculture, alternative energy, and trade unions. ▼

Registration for the conference is free to all students with a valid ID or \$20 per person. For more information, call (510) 643-0796. Tickets for the Thursday concert are \$15 for students with ID or \$20 general admission and are available at the UC Box Office, Round World Records in San Francisco, La Peña Cultural Center in Berkeley, or BASS.

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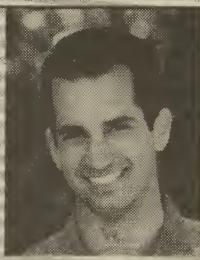
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OPEN FORUM

Whistling past the graveyard

There are so many disturbing aspects to last week's murder of Brian Wilmes that it's hard to know which is the worst: that citizens are not safe walking down Mission Street near Van Ness so early in the evening; that the woman who was with the assailant and drove him from the scene of his butchery (and who never, as far as anyone knows, called the cops to report it) has not been charged with any crime; that the community has (so far) not reacted with much visible outrage or shock; or that the agency that is supposed to be protecting us from anti-gay violence seems to have been caught napping.

Community United Against Violence is, at least, doing the right thing by owning up to its past neglect of its whistle project: honesty, not stonewalling, is the best policy for community-based organizations. That said, the past neglect seems pretty disgraceful, considering that CUAV has gotten nearly \$800,000 to spend on violence prevention in the last two years, only \$2,000 of which went for whistles.

The comparison between whistle distribution and condom distribution seems obvious. Just as condoms in bars won't solve the problem of HIV transmission alone, but are a good first step, whistles (which, to be honest, probably wouldn't have saved Wilmes's life) should be among the first priorities of any anti-violence agency. They must be made accessible to everyone who might need one, and CUAV should get right on it.

We also urge the entire community to attend the forum on anti-gay violence that Supervisor Tom Ammiano has scheduled for this Saturday, March 21. It begins at 4 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Academy at 19th and Collingwood streets (a couple of blocks from the sacred intersection of Castro and 18th) and seems as good a way to spend a Saturday as we can imagine.

Unfortunately, when the Wilmes story broke, CUAV seemed all but immobilized because its executive director was in Washington DC, discussing the "Millennium March" that Metropolitan Community Church and the Human Rights Campaign have proposed for the year 2000. (For details, see the story on page 18.) That, we have to say, sounds like a colossal waste of time.

Not just last weekend's meeting; we mean the whole march idea is a boondog-

gle. The last two gay and lesbian marches on Washington accomplished very little — if you recall, the president paid his own way to Boston that weekend to avoid being in the same town as the marchers, and that was Clinton, not Bush — and they wasted a great deal of money and time. Merchants who provided goods and services to the last MoW complained bitterly about going unpaid ... while others seem to have been more than generously compensated. We expect a march in 2000 would create the same inequities if it ever gets off the ground, and that it would have even less positive effect on the lives of ordinary gays, lesbians, transsexuals, transgenders, bisexuals, queers, and questioning folk.

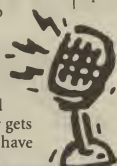
(And although we think that laundry list of sexual otherness is cumbersome, we also have to question why none of those words has shown up in the proposal for this "Millennium March." It is an event too chicken to put "gay" in its name, sponsored by two groups too chicken to put the word "gay" in their names. What does this say about the state of

our liberation movement? Perhaps HRC and MCC need to rethink the whole idea.

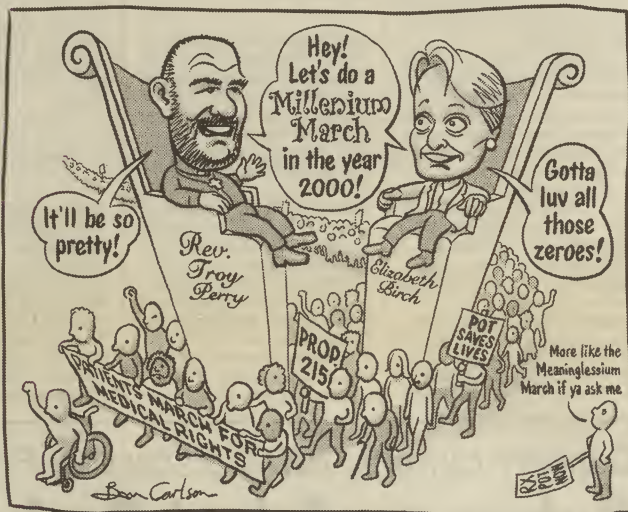
Just to show that we aren't against marches per se — in fact, we love them — we urge everyone to join the local march planned for this Tuesday, to support the concept of medical marijuana. With antiretroviral therapies reaching breaking points in more and more patients (as Phillip Alden reports on page 29), we can expect to see more of our friends and loved ones with AIDS struggling with nausea and the effects of chemotherapy. They should not be deprived of their medical marijuana for any reason, least of all to prop up Attorney General Dan Lungren's gubernatorial campaign.

There is more at stake than just medicine, or just marijuana. Pat Buchanan was right when he said there is a war going on for the soul of this country. Be a part of that battle; if you can't be a warrior for yourself, be one for the thousands of patients who need their pot, or for the late Brian Wilmes.

See you at the march. ▼



Editorial



Create change

by Patrick Batt,
President, Merchants of
Upper Market and Castro

I believe, as others do, that there has been a slow yet pernicious decline in the quality of life for those of us who live, work, and play in the Castro. I feel this is a result of a number of factors including general neglect, a lack of pride, and acquiescence to the status quo — as well as our not making City Hall aware of the area's importance to the city's economy and tourism. As a result, I fear the Castro is slowly slipping towards the fate that befell Polk Street in the middle '80s. All we have a stake in the future of this once colorful and bright spot.

Whether it is the merchant who doesn't clean the area in front of their business, or the person who casually drops their trash on the sidewalk, or the people who encourage professional panhandling by freely giving change, we are all contributing to that decline. When you walk the streets of the neighborhood take a look around you. Notice the litter. Notice the panhandlers. Notice the dowdiness. Think about how the Castro could change if we each stopped to pick up that carelessly discarded newspaper, bag, or coffee cup. Or, better yet, not tossing it to the ground in the first place!

Observe the overwhelming number of otherwise seemingly able-bodied people sitting or standing with an outstretched hand asking for change. Consider their choice of lifestyle. Imagine yourself as a tourist who

has planned a trip to San Francisco with visiting the Castro in mind, only to find the area fouled and dirty. Think about it. It's not a pretty sight. And now is the time to take action!

The Merchants of Upper Market & Castro (MUMC) have begun a program with the acronym CPR (Castro Pride & Revitalization) to address these very issues. The first step is a program to educate the public of the difference between the truly homeless and those folks who choose panhandling as a lifestyle or a vocation. You will hear and see more about this in the coming weeks, with a visual aid to remind us all how to best help those less fortunate than ourselves. In addition I'd like to see the bars in the area follow the lead of Daddy's, the Edge, and the Pendulum and put out an ashtray for the convenience of their patrons and to aid in keeping the sidewalk and street clean.

The people hired by clubs and events to come into the area to flatter need to be responsible citizens and make a concerted effort to keep the sidewalks and streets free of the litter they create. Merchants who sell take out liquor to obviously intoxicated "street people" must consider the ramifications — both legal and otherwise — of their actions. Any group or organizer who comes into the Castro to produce events will be asked to make a show of good faith and concern for the upkeep of the neighborhood by donating to MUMC's Beautifica-

tion Fund.

Our plan is to install quality permanent and bright Gay Pride banners on all the poles in the Upper Market and Castro area. The Castro Street Fair, Inc. board recently voted a \$3,000 grant for just that purpose. We currently are talking with Frameline, as well as other organizers, for the same help. In addition, we are reaching out to city government in an effort to get some attention to the general cleanliness of the area as well as some long overdue recognition of our vital importance to the city's economy. The

Castro, after all, is an internationally known destination for tourists who help fill the city's coffers with sales and use tax revenue — a fact that I am certain should not be lost on the Mayor or the Board of Supervisors.

It is not possible, nor am I asking, for any one person, business, or group to do it all. However, it is extraordinarily simple to effect and create change when we are all working toward a common goal. Now is the time to dovetail our efforts and make certain the Castro and Upper Market neighborhood does not fall into an abyss of neglect and despair.

As an 18-year resident of the city and a merchant in the Castro for 11 of those years, I won't sit idly by while this vibrant, exciting, and important area deteriorates. Whether you are a merchant, resident, or visitor, won't you join me in this effort? The need is there, the time is right, and the solutions are simple. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Merchant ivory towers?

On Saturday, March 14, my friend Hero and I handed out 400 copies of the following flier on the corner of 18th and Castro:

"Queers unite!"

"The poor aren't the enemy! (Some queers are poor too.)"

"San Francisco is in the midst of an unparalleled economic boom for the rich landlords —

"And they don't want you to give money to poor people because it hurts business!!!"

"Who's hurting after a long wet winter? Landlords tripling your rents or the houseless asking for pennies?"

"Who will stop the landlords from destroying the diverse community we have worked so hard to build?"

"Don't participate in class cleansing!"

"Don't participate in the dismemberment of the queer community!"

"Give your change to those in need and enjoy a heartfelt thank you."

"Show you care about community more than outrageous profit."

"Boycott the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro until they remember all the colors of the rainbow!!"

"Diversity makes us strong!"

I am happy that most responses were supportive in nature. Someone pointed out to me that not all of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro were involved in the ongoing shameless attacks on the poor, only the members of the organization of that same name. My response was that it was the duty of those merchants who disagreed with the organization's stance to make their views known, since the name of the organization implies that it represents all the merchants in the neighborhood.

Olmo de Castro Ganther
San Francisco

'Tough love' for the homeless

Your coverage of the March 5 meeting of MUMC regarding the problem of homelessness and panhandling in our neighborhood [*"MCC, MUMC differ on Castro anti-panhandling campaign"*] quotes Castro MCC Pastor Jim Mitulski denouncing MUMC's proposed pamphlet discouraging handouts as "harsh looking" and not "communicating compassion." He said, "Compassion should be the first value... put out to the public." The article also describes MCC's twice a week meals for the homeless. I also am aware that MCC has a goal of making these meals a daily occurrence. Unlike Reverend Mitulski, who does not live in the Castro (nor does his co-minister, Reverend Nixon) but only comes here to spread compassion before returning safely home, I have lived here since 1989.

It seems that the MCCers, as so many religious people do, are confusing the virtue of compassion with the disease of codependence. The funding and feeding of the homeless that they consider compassionate is actually the codependent enabling of the alcoholism and addiction that masks itself as "the problem of homelessness." Perhaps the most compassionate thing is to set limits for those who are themselves abusive, who engage in obnoxious aggressive panhandling, who camp out in our doorways and treat us rudely and harshly while doing so, and who leave garbage and human waste in their wake. There are many forms of love, some of them are "tough love" that refuses to tolerate addiction and abuse. There is also the fuzzy-brained kind of love that "gets off" on the self-righteous preaching of compassion and the self-indulgent emotion of being a do-gooder.

If the MCCers really want to do something to help the homeless, they might do it by addressing the real problem, which is alcoholism and the use of speed in our community, topics never touched in MCC sermons or programs. Perhaps such topics are too uncomfortable because they hit too close to home.

David Banton
San Francisco

The old gray Lips

Oh my dear, dear *Labios de Saccharine*. What will it take to get through to your pickled brain? You cannot count the time periods when you have taken to bottle, I mean bed, as time spent writing for the B.A.R. This might help you: One plus one equals two; one plus zero equals one (you may use your fingers if necessary). The fact remains, you, like your column, come after Mister Marcus. It's nothing to pop your girdle over, it is just a fact. When you have mastered the basic math outlined above, perhaps you could (or should) move on to counting to twelve...steps.

Stephen David
Honolulu, HA

[Editor's note: assuming that the above was meant for Sweet Lips, it must be stated for the record that Lips predates Marcus at the B.A.R. That is hardly surprising. Lips predates a lot.]

Getting away with murder

I am the prosecutor in Contra Costa County handling the murder case against Joshua Puckett. I write this letter as a plea for help from the members of the community.

Puckett has admitted that he killed Vitaly Poliakov, a member of the Castro community, but in the dubious tradition of Dan White, Puckett is claiming the "gay panic defense." Essentially, Puckett seeks to exploit the naiveté of the straight community, which will comprise his jury, by claiming that he killed Poliakov after becoming enraged when Poliakov made physical sexual advances.

It has, however, been reported by the media that anonymous sources in the Castro have described Puckett speaking about wanting to kill someone shortly before he actually killed Poliakov. It has also been detailed by the media that a member of the Castro has reported anonymously that he engaged in sexual activity with Puckett.

If these people do not come forward, Puckett may very well successfully lie to a jury. With these people, Puckett will be forced to face the truth of what he has done.

Without participation of the members of the community we seek to protect, we are powerless. That is why I am now pleading with these people to call me at (510) 646-4554. Only when these people come forward can I assure the community that Puckett will have to answer for the murder of one of its members.

Barry Grove
Deputy District Attorney
Contra Costa County

Addicted to mediocrity?

I read with great interest the B.A.R.'s story about the celebration/entertainment part of the Gay Pride celebration. I agree with much of the point of view, particularly the part about the entertainment chair being proactive rather than reactive, i.e., seeking out good entertainers instead of waiting for demo tapes to wash up across the producers' desks.

Last year, my girlfriend and I were interested in entertainment enough to go to the various stages to see what this community had to offer. We found it depressing. The entertainment co-chair, a Ms. Billie Beasley, a talentless blowhard, spent much time on the microphone yacking about her great works.

In previous years, we've been treated to 400-pound lesbians singing along with music minus one tapes to k.d. lang songs. Is this community addicted to mediocrity? Nowhere in sight was the great blues singer Gary Floyd and singer-iconoclast Jon Sugar. There's a great gay comic who appears at the Punchline who used to live in San Francisco, but now lives in L.A. Find out who he is and get him back on stage. Have him emcee the event and eliminate Ms. Beasley.

Jack Lewis
San Francisco

Mailing lists

[The following letter was sent to the Honorable Donna Hitchens of the Judicial Council of America]

I have just received two requests from you to participate in a study of how, if at all, bias based on sexual orientation affects the quality of justice in the California court system. I received two requests because I have sent donations to both the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and my name was supplied to you, either directly or indirectly, by these organizations.

While I fully support your goal to determine the impact of bias in the California court system, I find it disturbing that organizations that serve gay and lesbian causes would make available a list of names of their supporters to any government entity. And I find it equally disturbing that you, a judge, would not see the ethical issues in a government entity procuring the names of supporters of organizations that deal with gay and lesbian issues.

What assurances can you give me and the community that these names will never be misused? Will this list be destroyed after you complete your study? What are the terms of a signed agreement for use of this list, if any? Can we be sure that under a new governor, such as Dan Lungren, that this list of names will not be used to a more sinister end? And what legal and fiscal recourse do we have should we suffer any negative effects from this?

Currently, there is pressure from many sectors to implement the mandatory reporting of names of people who test positive for HIV. While there have been many assurances made that these names of people with HIV will never be misused, I remain unconvinced. If organizations that are run by our gay and lesbian leaders and advocates do not see the potential harm in providing (selling?) our names to a government entity, just what will our enemies be able to accomplish?

Gary Oliver
San Francisco

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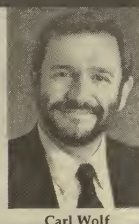
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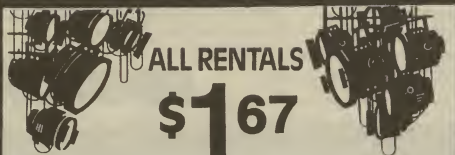
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'A Gather ing of Wisdom'

Thank you for the B.A.R.'s front page coverage of "A Gathering of Wisdom," the conference for California community health outreach workers (CHOWs) hosted by the Institute for Community Health Outreach (ICHO) last February 18-20 in San Francisco.

The article, "Elders tells B.A.R.: I should have pushed needle exchange" in the February 26 issue, captures very well the remarks of former Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders, who gave the conference keynote address. Her comments were extremely relevant to the health concerns of our community. In addition, the conference itself laid the basis for the development of a statewide network of CHOWs, which ICHO intends to pursue over the next few months.

The article left out the recognition of The California Endowment as the major sponsor of the conference. Without the financial support of that foundation, the conference would not have been possible. The California Endowment has made a strategic commitment to funding community health outreach throughout the state.

Again, thanks for the outstanding article on an important event. I invite you to continue your coverage as the statewide CHOW network develops.

Pat Norman
Executive Director
Institute for Community Health Outreach
San Francisco

[We apologize for the omission.]

Us against us?

Re: "Figure Skating at SFAF" [B.A.R., February 26], and various Mailstrom letter writers:

When did the salaries of executives suddenly become news? More specifically, when did the salaries of executives at an AIDS service organization (ASO) become news? Did the religious right, or the mayor, or Ellen not do anything noteworthy that week? Or in any of the previous weeks in which the Bay Area Reporter has taken great pains to attack one of San Francisco's most active and successful ASOs? Will someone please explain to me why, when a nonprofit executive is doing the equivalent job as his/her counterpart in the for-profit arena, he/she seems to be expected by the B.A.R. and its published letter writers not to be similarly compensated for his/her work. Whatever happened to equal pay for equal work? Or does that not apply to ASOs?

Is SFAF paying its executives at the expense of its current services? Are SFAF's clients not being served? And isn't that what's really important? I have yet to read in the B.A.R. an article stating, clearly, what it is that SFAF isn't doing, as part of its mission, and should be doing.

So what is the really the problem, B.A.R.? Is it that Pat Christen makes more than Mike Salinas and Cynthia Laird do combined? Get over it! She probably does more for the community than both of them combined, too.

Whatever happened to the "us against them" reporting I used to love so about the gay press? Why does it now seem to be "us against us"?

Richard Dupler
San Francisco

[You're right: Christen makes more than Salinas and Laird combined. In fact, last we knew (which was two years ago), Christen made more than twice as much as Salinas and Laird combined. She may make a lot more this year, but we won't know until SFAF coughs up those IRS forms — in about 14 months.]

Big Bucks Patty

We were there at Stonewall. We were there at candlelight marches. We were there for Gay Pride Parades and celebrations and street fairs. We were there to voice our concern for PWAs in state prison. We were there to voice our concern for the high cost of AZT and other drugs for PWAs. We were there to voice out dismay for "don't ask, don't tell."

But, we are not united in our concrete effort to terminate Pat Christen AKA Big Bucks Patty, Un-Christian Christian at San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

With all our power as a united gay/lesbian community, we can't get a meeting of the minds to replace this money hungry staff out and replace people who live beyond the realm of those with AIDS, who scrape and save just to buy toilet paper and several cans of food.

Please explain how does one "Pat" spend her \$47 an hour plus benefits. Does she shop at Canned Foods Dented Can Center or is it more convenient for them to eat out in fancy restaurants in SF and Oakland?

Let's all circulate a petition to demand an outside agency to force full disclosure.

Let's not forget ever the money San Francisco AIDS Foundation gets through private and public donations are for the service to PWA and education, not to enrich those with deep pockets.

Joe Jensen

'Hoop' skirting

In your March 12 issue, you printed a letter to me from Mike Slivicki [Guest editorial, "Jumping through hoops for HOPWA"] regarding housing issues for people with HIV and AIDS. On March 10, I sent Mr. Slivicki the following response:

"Dear Mr. Slivicki:

"Thank you for your letter, which served to reinforce my understanding of the problems people with AIDS face securing appropriate housing in San Francisco. While the dilemma of obtaining affordable housing in the City is by no means isolated to those living with HIV and AIDS, I empathize with the additional burden that this disease poses. I am very familiar with the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS program, and have recently been examining ways to make it serve people better. I would like to explain the steps the City is currently taking to address some of the issues you have raised:

"1. Adjusting Fair Market Rents

"The San Francisco Housing Authority has recently requested a recalculation from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for the recently-published Fair Market Rents for the area. We expect that such a recalculation will increase the allowable rent levels both for the HOPWA Rental Certificate program as well for the general Section 8 Rental Subsidy program. If HUD accepts the proposal, the amounts cited in your letter for the one bedroom and garden apartments would hopefully be within limits. The City is currently pressing HUD for a quick reply on this. [*]

"2. Paying More Than 30% Of Income

"We are also examining the Redevelopment Agency's HOPWA Rental Certificate program and considering ways to make it more effective for those who receive the housing subsidies. As you have indicated, the program only allows participants to pay up to 30% of their income on rent. However, your point on paying an amount in excess of this is well taken. The Agency is looking into changing this, and is exploring converting the "certificate" program to a "voucher" program which would allow participants to find units which are renting at above the Fair Market Rents. Participants could then pay the excess amount out of their own pocket.

"In addition, the Agency is working on a Shallow Rent Subsidy program which will pay a flat subsidy for housing which varies dependent on the unit and household size. While this program will pay a smaller subsidy than the normal HOPWA Rental Certificate program, it will allow the subsidy recipient more freedom in finding apartments above the Fair Market Rent and paying an amount for rent which they see fit. The rent cap flexibility will also help more participants remain in their current units.

"3. Seeking Housing Quality Standards Flexibility

"The HOPWA Rental Certificate program is also constrained by HUD's Housing Quality Standards. These regulations dictate what type of unit can be assisted by HOPWA funds. In the past, the City has asked for waivers when the units are in compliance with our local building codes. The City is prepared to continue this action on a case by case basis, as it helps to secure safe and sanitary units for participants of the HOPWA program.

"Many advocates for low-income and HIV-positive individuals have recently been asking questions similar to the ones posed in your letter. My recent Summit on HIV/AIDS addressed some of the exact concerns you outlined, as did a recent hearing at the Board of Supervisors. I intend to call a meeting soon of relevant Department heads and community leaders to further assess the problems and attempt to find solutions. Unfortunately, the problems are deeply rooted and require cooperation at the local and federal levels, as well as in the private sector. I promise to continue to work diligently at addressing the issues you have raised, and to maintain my commitment to the task of providing affordable housing to all residents of San Francisco.

"With regard to your specific situation, it is my understanding that the staff of the Redevelopment Agency is working with the Housing Authority to waive certain requirements in relation to your current unit, which would allow you to remain there and use your HOPWA subsidy. I hope that these efforts are helpful.

"If you have any further concerns or questions, please contact Dick Pabich, my AIDS Policy Advisor, at 554-5967."

* I am pleased to report that since this letter was sent, HUD did indeed raise the rent caps for federally-subsidized housing, as Mr. Slivicki and the city had urged.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to respond to Mr. Slivicki's thoughtful letter.

Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.
San Francisco

Send signed, short, original letters to the B.A.R. at 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94102. Please include your number for verification purposes; it will not be published except upon

POLITICS

State props top ballot

by Wayne Friday

In addition to an array of gubernatorial, U.S. senate, state and county candidates, and county propositions, the June 2 primary ballot will include no less than nine state propositions to be decided on by California voters. The measures up for consideration basically break down as follows:

Prop. 219 — A seemingly unimportant proposed constitutional amendment that would prohibit statewide initiatives from being unevenly applied around California based on approval or disapproval votes. Such a varied application has not yet occurred, but some fear that it might.

Prop. 220 — A proposed constitutional amendment to consolidate municipal and superior courts in a county upon a majority vote of judges.

Prop. 221 — A proposed constitutional amendment that would allow the Commission on Judicial Performance to discipline such judicial officers as court commissioners subject to review of the Supreme Court. The commission already has the authority to discipline judges.

Prop. 222 — A proposed statute from the Legislature that would increase the penalty for second-degree murder of a police officer from 25 years to life in prison to life without parole.

Prop. 223 — An initiative statute that would bar school districts from spending more than 5 percent for administration costs beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.

Prop. 224 — An initiative constitutional amendment that would require competitive bidding for state engineering or design contracts of more than \$50,000.

Prop. 225 — An initiative statute declaring that elected officials should support a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution limiting congressional terms. This measure is advisory only.

Prop. 226 — An initiative statute that would require labor organizations to get permission annually from its members before using union dues for political contributions.

Prop. 227 — An initiative statute that would require virtually all public school instruction to be in English and would end most bilingual programs.

None of the state propositions you will see on the June ballot are particularly earth-shattering. However, the last three should get the lion's share of the attention.

Burton's bucks

Hey, a rich guy can be a good public servant, too, can't he? In financial reports filed recently in Sacramento, state Senator **John Burton** revealed that he is a millionaire, perhaps many times over. In addition, as senate leader, Burton receives \$90,720 annually, plus a state car, \$190 a day to cover "expenses," and other perks. Mere legislators only earn \$78,624 annually plus all the other goodies. Incidentally, of interest to our readership might be the fact that Burton's Capitol office features a framed jockstrap with the words, "I am a Burton supporter." Cute.



Rep. Jane Harman

No word on whether said strap is stuffed with filthy lucre or not.

Mayor **Willie Brown** is supporting Lieutenant Governor **Gray Davis** for governor, but Representative **Jane Harman**

picked up the endorsements last week of two other local political heavyweights, Representative **Nancy Pelosi** and Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**. Those close to Senator **Dianne Feinstein** tell me they expect DiFi to "come out swinging"

for Harman any day now.

My City Hall sources tell me it wouldn't be wise to invite Supervisors **Leland Yee** and **Amos Brown** to the same cocktail party unless there's a *gigantic* wheel of bribe separating them.

A lot of well-known names are running for seats on the Democratic County Committee this June. The list includes former D.A. **Arlo Smith**, **Richard Hongisto**, former supe candidate **Andrew Clark**, and Supervisor **Sue Bierman**, among others. One usually reliable source tells me that Hongisto could be looking at a supe race in November. Smith is thought to be focusing on district elections two years hence.

Angela Alioto is sounding more and more like a candidate for mayor with every quote I see. She would certainly be a dynamic opponent for Hizzoner.

Meanwhile, some of former Supervisor **Annemarie Conroy's** longtime Republican friends are quietly whispering (in bitter tones, you understand) that she sold out to Willie B. for a job when she accepted that plum Treasure Island post. But damn, \$125,000 a year is nothing to turn your nose up at. Anyway, Annemarie is a friend of mine, and I don't think she'd "sell out" to anyone — it's more like Willie Brown shoring up his re-election effort.

D.A. **Terence Hallinan**, Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley**, and Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** re-



Supe Tom Ammiano

ceived the biggest hand from the crowds along Sunday's St. Patrick's Day parade route.

The County Democratic Central Committee last week endorsed Municipal Court Judge **Dorothy von Beroldingen**, defense attorney **V. Roy Lefcourt**, and attorney **Stephen Collier** (a recent convert from the Green Party) for seats on the San Francisco bench in the June election.

National Republicans had to backtrack a bit and eat their own words — and a large helping of crow — when **Lois Capps** won the special election in California's 22nd (Santa Barbara area) District last week. Feeling confident that they would take the seat, Washington GOPers were calling the election "an important bellwether" on the upcoming November congressional elections. Capps, a pro-choice, pro-gay rights Democrat, won the seat easily despite the \$250,000 that the homophobic **Gary Bauer's** Campaign for Working Families funneled into the coffers of her opponent.

After Capps's victory, former President **Gerald Ford** criticized the GOP on its strict anti-abortion policies, declaring that "if we continue to get way over on the hard right of the political spectrum on these issues, we will not again elect a Republican president."

In the nation's capital, political pundits are predicting that Ohio Representative **John Kasich** is about to enter the 2000 GOP presidential sweepstakes. Well, Mr. Kasich's recent marriage should help quell longtime D.C. whispers (think pink!) about the 45-year-old congressman's sexual preferences and living arrangements. Kasich shared a house with his male chief of staff for 14 years, but supposedly it was only so the two could economize on rent. Tell it to the Marines, John!

Incidentally, if Mr. Kasich takes the presidential plunge, he will most likely have to face off against House colleague **Newt Gingrich**. The Speaker's San Francisco friends (yes, he has them) are claiming he's a "sure bet" to give up his powerful post by the end of the year to "go big time."

Gubernatorial candidate **Al Checchi's** opponents are scoffing at reports he turned down offers to become commissioner of baseball. Checchi, who admits he didn't bother to vote in four of the last six state elections, would apparently rather spend his time sitting in the governor's chair than in a major league ballpark and is willing to spend many millions to purchase that precious piece of office furniture. But are the deepest of deep pockets always enough? Ask "Iron" **Mike Huffington** — if you can find him.

Former Mayor **Art Agnos**, Supe **Sue Bierman**, Assessor **Doris Ward**, and **Roma Guy** are the co-chairs of Supervisor **Tom Ammiano's** re-election kickoff party. The soiree is slated for Tuesday, March 31, at the home of **Art and Sherry Agnos** (5:30-7 p.m., \$35, 665-5417).

My Quote of the Week is from the *San Jose Mercury News*: "San Francisco Mayor **Willie Brown** takes one bus ride on Market Street and gets stalled in traffic so he launches a major push to combat double-parking and jaywalkers. Think of what problems he might tackle if he got out of his limo every day." Ouch! ▼

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**Snout of the closet**

by Beth Elliott

If You Believe in Pheromones, Clap Your Hands Dept.: I still wouldn't throw my money away on any of those purported babe-snagging perfumes, but perhaps you read about University of Chicago researcher Martha McClintock proving that human bodies can and do communicate with pheromones. Specifically, McClintock has come up with the ever-popular replicatable results (that's science talk for "Just The Facts, Ma'am") on her theory of menstrual synchronization.

You know the story: women living in close proximity pick up on each other's pheromones, and gradually their menstrual cycles synchronize. Does this sound like an idea thought up in 1971? You betcha. But wait, it gets worse: McClintock's first hypothesis dates back to her undergraduate days at Wellesley in 1971. Yep, we're talking Goddess-worshipping, women's community, mysticism-tinged sisterhood stuff of the first order, now proven by the scientific method. You just know the Volcano Girl is lovin' every cotton-pickin' minute of this.

McClintock got her volunteers to wear cotton pads in their armpits for at least eight hours. Then, keeping track of what time of month their sweat was from, and using blanks for the control group, she had specific pads wiped under her volunteers' noses and instructed them not to wash their faces for six hours. After doing this through four cycles, 70 percent of the volunteers saw their cycles shift anywhere from a day to a fortnight in the expected direction.

Pheromones can't be consciously smelled but act on receptor sites in the nose. McClintock doesn't know whether this capability is an evolutionary vestige or something important, but she's hoping her discovery can lead to the development of non-steroidal birth control and the like.

As for the bolstering of that whole sisterhood of women intrinsically attuned to each other riff... well, these days I see that as a kind of double-edged sword. The cult of anti-individuality, as in the worship of group identities and identity politics, just keeps rolling along—even as the feminists who make the biggest deal about these

concepts keep piddling away every significant opportunity to leverage the very real base-level affinity females have for each other into more freedom for lesbians.

These days it's not just Julia Fordham singing "Don't you know that the love of a woman for a woman is here till the end." It's not just (married lady) Sarah McLachlan singing "Haven't I always been there for you... let me try, and I will be good to you." It's long-distance services selling bargain rates so lifelong female friends can hang out across the miles. It's Beverly Lowry writing this in the *New Yorker*: "Contrary to conventional wisdom, women love women. Women love to love women. Men are a sticker path women have to run through, between one female encounter—a meeting, a conversation—and the next."

This is stuff those of us who keep an eye out for the well-being of lesbians could be taking to the bank. But no—some lesbians are too busy trying to "queer" anything that moves, or trying to figure out how to be female without having to deal with womanhood, much less celebrate it. Yet finding common female ground means more women getting the clue that what we lesbians do by loving each other is celebrate women—and by honoring, respecting, and appreciating lesbians, straight women can celebrate their best visions of female closeness.

Yes, here's yet another call for stripping away the layers of crap that got built up on that concept of "women's community" (and these days, I suspect the cool community would be one of all the people of any gender or orientation convinced women are about the coolest thing going on the planet). Why? Because too much of the stuff that takes our focus away from the "woman-identified" thing makes us look ridiculous (which may be the hidden agenda). Because today, theorizing about female bonding, and throwing conferences about same, is done to promote a cult of female victimization and our inability to accomplish anything in a hostile, patriarchal world.

And the women who make the

most dire pronouncements about women's standing in the world, the ones supposedly on the edge of a breakdown every moment, are women with mass quantities of "privilege." The women rivaling Oliver Stone with their conspiracy theories about patriarchal plots are often tenured women professors at prestigious universities. You know, those charged with teaching young women to know themselves to be capable and strong?

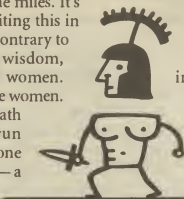
I have an ex-lover who was raised in a family of Baptist preachers—not the most congenial environment for a very bright girl. Nonetheless, she was flying along—studying in France, getting masters' degrees left and right, owning a series of houses all by herself—until she figured out that her childhood was oppressive. Instead of clarity and freedom,

that moment of feminist realization brought her emotional paralysis. Now she sees herself as "fragile and delicate," needing to obsess every moment on her "survival." Her teacher's credential hangs on the wall (while California's hiring like mad) while she works part-time and is in constant money trouble. All radical feminism did for her was give her an excuse to feel noble for becoming a loser.

Perhaps so many women fall into this very trap (where they give each other strokes for being "victims") because we lack a slang term for women who let themselves be intimidated by the opposite sex. We don't have a phrase we can use to needle other women into showing some backbone. Men have "henpecked" and "pussy-whipped," but we have nothing.

So why don't we tell these women who talk themselves into psychic incapacity on men's behalf they've been "piggy-snouted"? Let's use it as a term of ridicule, to tell them we're on to their game and wish they'd pull themselves together instead of making all women look weak—and asking us to carry them.

I'm tired of a feminism that says the highest accomplishment of raising one's consciousness is coming to know everything's hopeless. "Piggy-snouted"—yeah, that'll play! ▼

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Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

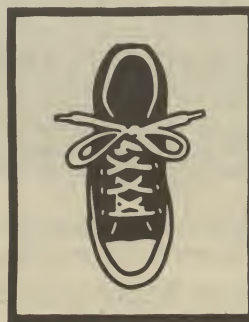


Fig. 4

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Scout's honor



Thirteen-year-old Boy Scout Steven Cozza from Petaluma was on 18th and Castro last Sunday, March 15, collecting signatures on a petition to the Boy Scouts demanding that they allow gays to become members. Steven and his father Scott hope their grass-roots effort garners a million signatures in order to continue the pressure on the BSA.

Fetal attraction

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Cautious: May Cause Fetal Homosexuality! This is the warning label that should accompany all stress-inducing products, violent TV programs, roller-coaster rides, and so forth, if we're to take seriously the work of Guenther Doerner, M.D. The German endocrinologist has been arguing for decades that pregnant women who are exposed to stress are more likely to have gay sons. At one point, 20 years ago, he even proposed a program to eliminate male homosexuality by reducing pregnant women's exposure to stress, or by giving them hormones to counteract the effect of stress on their endocrine systems.

Now wait a minute! We like homosexuality, don't we? And we'd like to see more of it in the next generation, right? So shouldn't we be encouraging women to get into more stressful situations? Shouldn't we be telling our pregnant sisters to provoke road-rage incidents on the freeways, or to slug it out on *The Jerry Springer Show*?

Actually, according to Doerner, homosexuality is caused not so much by everyday-type stresses as by truly disastrous events: rape, death of a spouse, war, losing one's home. Not things we would wish on anyone. So this doesn't seem like a practical means of promoting queerness.

Doerner's theory is based on three kinds of evidence. First, there's an "animal model," developed originally by Ingeborg Ward of Villanova University. If pregnant rats are exposed to severe stress during the last few days of pregnancy, the level of testosterone in the male fetuses drops, and this leads to atypical development of the rats' brains. Thus, when they are adult, they are more than usually willing to be mounted by other males. The animal research is pretty good, but

its relevance to human brain development is very uncertain.

Another kind of evidence is based on epidemiological research. Doerner claims to have evidence that the prevalence of homosexuality is much greater among German men born during the Second World War than among men born before or after the war. Two German psychologists attempted to replicate this observation, however, and failed to find any such correlation. "Homosexual men can go on loving peace and getting involved in the peace movement," they concluded ironically.

Doerner's third line of evidence is based on case histories. He claims to have interviewed a large number of gay and straight men about their mother's experiences during pregnancy. He says that many of the gay men, but almost none of the straight men, told him that their mother experienced severe stress. The difference was so striking that, if Doerner's data are correct, he could fairly claim to have found the main factor influencing men's sexual orientation.

But they're not correct. A second German study, from the University of Kiel, tested Doerner's theory by checking the medical records of a large number of women who were pregnant in the 1960s, and then locating and interviewing the male offspring of those pregnancies. The men whose mothers experienced severe stress during pregnancy were no more likely to be gay than the others. Then, in 1991, Michael Bailey (of Northwestern University) and two colleagues carried out another test of Doerner's theory. They interviewed a sample of women who had adult sons, both homosexual and heterosexual. They found that the pregnancies that gave rise to gay sons were no more likely to be accompanied by stressful events than the pregnan-

cies that gave rise to straight sons.

Bailey and his colleagues did make one unexpected observation. They carried out a companion study of women: in this study, they found that mothers reported more stressful events during pregnancies that gave rise to lesbian daughters than during pregnancies that gave rise to heterosexual daughters. The difference was small but it was statistically significant. This finding, however, runs counter to what one would have expected on the basis of Doerner's theory. Lower testosterone levels in female fetuses should if anything make them heterosexual, not lesbian. According to Bailey, the finding may not be a real one: it may simply reflect a tendency for mothers to remember more stressful events during the "lesbian" pregnancies, because they have been searching for a reason why their daughters became lesbian.

So Doerner's theory is just plain wrong. It seems inspired by the belief that homosexuality is really bad, and therefore that something really bad should cause it. Although Doerner himself hasn't abandoned the theory, he doesn't place so much emphasis on it now as he did a decade ago. And he isn't so enthusiastic about prevention programs. It should be a decision by gay people themselves, he says. That's all well and good, but how are we going to ask fetuses what they want to become? Kick if you want to be straight, wiggle if you want to be gay? Maybe we'd do better to just let Nature take its course. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *The Sexual Brain*, *City of Friends* (with Elisabeth Jonas), and *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996), and the biomedical thriller *Albrick's Gold* (Richard Kasak Books, 1997). He may be reached at SLeVay@aol.com. For more Queer Science columns, visit www.gay.net.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CUAV

◀ page 1

Ammiano is also holding a community forum for people to talk about combating anti-gay violence this Saturday, March 21, at the Harvey Milk Academy in the Castro. The forum was prompted by the fatal attack on 45-year-old Brian Wilmes Thursday, March 12 [see story, front page]. After being punched by an assailant outside of the Loading Dock on Mission Street, Wilmes fell into a coma and died from his injuries on Saturday, March 14 at California Pacific Medical Center. A suspect, Edgar Mora, 25, was charged with murder with special enhancement for allegedly committing a hate crime. He reportedly uttered anti-gay slurs during the attack.

While studies show anti-gay violence is up nationwide and

down slightly in San Francisco, that wasn't always the case. One method gays used back in the 1970s was carrying a whistle with them to summon others if they were attacked, or to alert passers-by to call police. The whistles also have the potential to scare off attackers before an incident becomes life-threatening.

The old Butterfly Brigade launched the first "Carry a Whistle" program in San Francisco in 1977. According to Hank Wilson, a longtime gay rights activist and an original founder of CUAV, the program was successful, with over 30,000 whistles distributed in the first few years. In later years CUAV made up flyers that promoted the whistle campaign.

This week, Wilson expressed anger that CUAV has not kept up the whistle program and showed the B.A.R. a copy of a letter he wrote to the agency last August. "CUAV's efforts supporting this tradition have varied over the years but it seems the tradition must be cultivated if it is to continue," Wilson wrote. "What are the existing efforts to support this tradition?"

Olmstead-Rose does not downplay the agency's lack of a whistle campaign or its benefits. "To be absolutely honest, we do way too little," he told the B.A.R.

"We have not been aggressive in the last year or so. We do have whistles, but we are not visible enough and we absolutely should be. The very best thing in preventing violence is the speakers bureau and we'll continue to push people to take self-defense courses. Whistles work in a very limited fashion, but very well."

He said that speakers reached almost 8,000 people last year. He also said whistles are available at the CUAV office, and that staff members and volunteers take them when they do public activities.

CUAV's annual budget was reported at \$568,060 for 1995-96; Olmstead-Rose said the agency has settled the \$120,000 in debts it was saddled with after producing the 1996 Halloween fiasco, and that its financial picture is much improved. "We've recovered from the Halloween deficit and have a balanced budget this year. We've completely stabilized. We got some new grants last summer to expand domestic violence and hate violence victim services." ▼

Saturday's forum on anti-gay violence starts at 4 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, located at 19th and Collingwood streets.

Clinton & AIDS

◀ page 1

mode of transmission disproportionately affects people of color. It is linked, either directly or through their sexual partners, to the majority of infections in women and children.

"When I hear about a conference or a meeting on women and HIV, absent this administration's endorsement of needle exchange, it rings hollow," said Regina Aragon, policy director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "And when I hear a stated commitment to ending racial disparities in the HIV epidemic, absent a commitment to needle exchange, that is a sham."

Matches cause smoking

HHS officials, from the press office to Shalala, have come to admit that yes, science shows that needle exchange programs save lives. But they continue to parrot the line that data is inconclusive on whether or not needle exchange leads to increased injection drug use, despite overwhelming evidence that it does not.

Council member Terje Anderson, a self-described ex-junkie and executive director of the Southern Colorado AIDS Project, dismissed those reservations. "People do not begin using drugs because they have access to an uncontaminated needle any more than easy access to wine glasses is the cause of alcoholism or matches are the cause of teen smoking. It is not easy access to the means of administration that makes someone start an addictive, destructive behavior, it is much more complex, much deeper than that."

Denise Stokes is 29 and a member of the council. She has been infected with HIV for 16 years. She recalled sitting beside Shalala at a 1994 news conference.

"I sat and listened to Secretary Shalala say, and I quote, 'Every new HIV infection is a needless infection. We have the knowledge and the technology to prevent the ... spread of HIV. What we have lacked until now is the political will — because we have been too timid to talk openly about the prevention tools that are at our disposal.' That was over four years ago. The secretary still refuses to do what really needs to be done."

"Do you care about the lives of people like me?" posed Anderson to the Clinton Administration. "Are you willing to take step — perhaps politically risky or unpopular steps — in order to save lives? Or instead are you willing to consider us expendable, disposable people?" The silence from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue has been deafening. ▼

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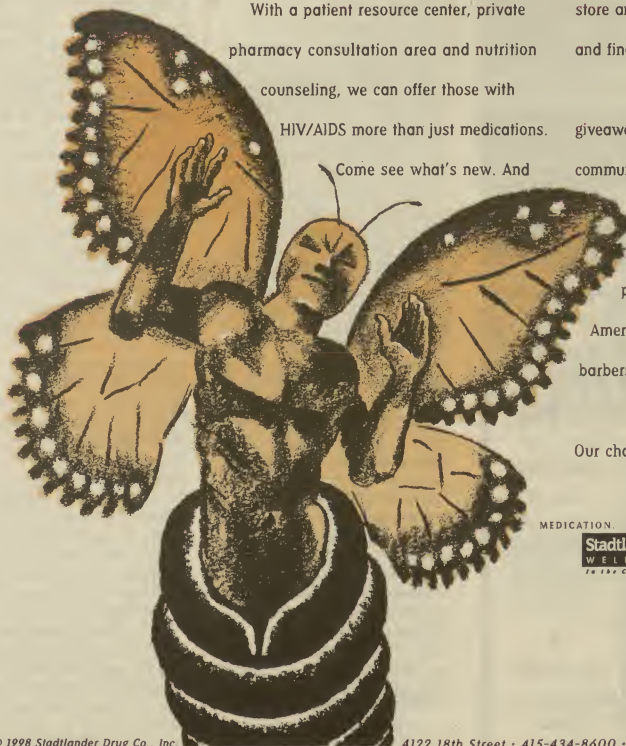
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Time to apologize?

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

In response to a GLAADAlert item last week, criticizing *Time* magazine for excluding from its 75th Anniversary issue lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, as well as the AIDS pandemic, the magazine is planning on running a number of letters. This will include a commentary by longtime AIDS activist Larry Kramer and a special box section on issues that were neglected in the 75th Anniversary issue. In response to a GLAADAlert reader's letter to the editor, Chief of *Time* Letters Amy Musher said that the magazine "did not consciously eliminate whole subjects," and called the "omission" of "Time's extensive coverage of the gay rights movement and the impact of AIDS on the gay community ... [in the special issue] oversights, pure and simple."

Clearly, the 75th Anniversary issue should not be taken as an all-encompassing analysis of *Time*'s coverage of these issues (the magazine is nominated for a number of GLAAD Media Awards this year). Recognizing the omission in an upcoming issue marks *Time*'s willingness to admit when an error has been made.

Please commend *Time* for publicly recognizing their historical error, but remind them that it is still shocking it happened in the first place.

Contact: Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, *Time* Magazine, Time-Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020

Will Josh be Significant?

From the creators of *Party of Five* comes *Significant Others* on FOX, which on March 18 features Josh, the show's three lead characters' gay neighbor. The twentysomething drama follows the lives of Campbell, Henry, and Nell, friends living in Los Angeles trying to fulfill their dreams and find themselves. On the episode, Josh invites the three to his birthday party that he and his partner are throwing. While at the party, the trio becomes envious of Josh and his partner's relationship and happiness. *Significant Others* never really addresses Josh's sexual orientation directly, rather it is coded by his witty, slightly bitter, banter and his clever reference to ladies' footwear. Later at the party, his partner kisses his cheek and gives him a birthday hug.

While some viewers may long for a gay character with slightly differing qualities than we see on many shows, it would be interesting to see what could happen with Josh and his boyfriend if the show is picked up for the fall season. Encourage the producers of *Significant Others* to make Josh a more integral part of the new show.

Contact: Amy Lippman and Christopher Keyser, Executive Producers, *Significant Others*, c/o Columbia TriStar Television, 9050 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

GLAAD on Long Island

Love and Death on Long Island, a film based on a novel by Gilbert Adair, stars John Hurt as Giles

De'Ath, a British widower who becomes obsessed with young American actor Ronnie Bostock (Jason Priestley). In what can be considered an upbeat alternative to Thomas Mann's tragic *Death in Venice*, Kwietniowski skillfully weaves a respectful tale of a heterosexual-identified man who falls head over heels in love with a young teen idol.

This tale of cute obsession could easily have taken an undesirable turn toward creepiness. But the combination of an intelligent script and the director's offbeat sense of humor makes this film a thoughtful exploration of desire in its many forms, and the film challenges conventional concepts of straight and gay identities.



Please let Lion's Gate Releasing know that their limited release on this film is appreciated, and encourage them to distribute more high-quality lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender films.

Contact: Mark Urman, President, U.S. Operations, Lion's Gate Releasing, 561 Broadway, Suite 12B, New York, NY 10012, fax: (212) 966-2544.

Telling gay kids' stories on both coasts

Both the *Orlando Sentinel* and Los Angeles's *Buzz* magazine recently featured excellent articles looking at the challenges that lesbian, gay and bisexual high school students face. The March 5 edition of the *Orlando Sentinel* features a commentary by local high school teacher Judy Varblow. "Last month a friend of mine, Mike McKee (a teacher), announced he was gay. He wanted to be a role model for gay students and risked losing his job." She said people responded by saying it was his business and had nothing to do with being a teacher. "Wrong!" she retorts. "Few [lesbian and gay teenagers] feel comfortable confiding in their parents. If they are harassed at school, they have no one to tell; little support exists for them. These students live their lives in quiet desperation, lonely and isolated. This is what Mike is attempting to change. If more of us, as educators or community members, gay or straight, would take a stand, we might ease, and possibly save, the lives of these students."

The March issue of *Buzz* features a cover story entitled, "The Hot Issue: Teens Take On Homophobia." It looks at two different high school gay/straight alliances and their leaders. Garrett O'Neal is the openly gay president of the Santa Monica High School group, and Noah Strote is the openly straight president of the one at Harvard-Westlake, an exclusive private school. The article goes far beyond statistics on gay youth suicide and gives an in-depth look at what the clubs are all about, and what life as a gay young man can mean. "[Garrett and Noah] both hang out with straight and gay friends, and both are president of new official student led [gay-straight] clubs. Essentially rap sessions about gay harassment in and out of school, politics, and life, GSA meetings attract an edgy clique of kids, the majority of whom identify as straight or bisexual, when they identify at all," author Evan Forster writes. Forster attends meetings with the

young men, giving a slice of the discussion and some of the people involved. He then follows Garrett to the mall and watches him flirt with one guy of whose sexual orientation he isn't sure. The article looks at a host of issues, from dating to grades to where to hang out as a lesbian or gay teenager in Los Angeles.

Please thank the *Orlando Sentinel* and *Buzz* for their valuable contributions to the increasing media attention lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people are garnering.

Contact: Jane Healy, Managing Editor, *Orlando Sentinel*, 633 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32801-1349; and Marilyn Bethany, Editor in Chief, *Buzz* magazine, 11845 West Olympic Blvd. #800, Los Angeles, CA 90064-5014

Local paper miffed at Myrtle Beach mayoral madness

After Myrtle Beach (South Carolina) Mayor Mark McBride attempted to block the planned local South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Festival recently with an offensive and ill-informed pronouncement, the *Myrtle Beach Sun News* featured a March 8 editorial chastising the mayor for his intolerance and lack of perspective. When the local Pride organizers applied for a standard request to close some streets for their event, McBride stated on February 24 that "Whether it's a union group, abortionists or the Ku Klux Klan, if we allow one group to close streets, we will attract groups who just want to use Myrtle Beach's recognition to better their cause." He then added, "For 60 years, this community has promoted itself as a family beach with family values."

On March 8, the *Sun News* editorial stated, "McBride has managed to unnecessarily alienate gays and lesbians, labor unions, skinheads and just about every other special interest group. The bully pulpit he uses ought to be given to a council member spokesperson more in the mainstream of Myrtle Beach thoughtfulness and leadership. ... The Gay Pride '98 festival is not the first special interest group that has walked the streets of Myrtle Beach. When the supporters of the Confederate flag marched here for an extremist viewpoint, there wasn't this much concern. The image of Myrtle Beach is at stake. McBride would do well to keep his individual opinions to himself and not present them as the city's beliefs. The city is strong because of its diversity of age, gender, lifestyle and opinion. It must not follow the singular path being hacked by McBride."

Please commend the *Myrtle Beach Sun News* for their right-on indictment of a small-minded politician.

Contact: John X. Miller, Managing Editor, *The Sun News*, 914 Frontage Road East, Myrtle Beach, FL, 29577-6700 ▼

GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334).

Academy of Friends hosts Epic event

by Shan Schwartz

The envelope, please ... As Hollywood gathers for the Academy Awards next Monday evening, those in the Bay Area will gather at Fort Mason for the 18th annual Academy of Friends Oscar-Night Gala.

What began as a small, private Oscar-night party is now one of the largest nonprofit AIDS benefits in the Bay Area, treating partygoers to fancy food, beverages, prizes, and entertainment while raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for Bay Area HIV/AIDS service organizations.

The event takes place at Fort Mason's Festival Pavilion next Monday, March 23, from 5:30 p.m. until midnight.

With the Academy Awards as a glamorous framework, the evening's festivities also include an exclusive BMW "super drawing," a chance to participate in a limited drawing to win either a BMW Z-3 roadster or a BMW K-1100 LT motorcycle. An additional raffle offers prizes ranging from a London theater vacation to a home jacuzzi, and a silent auction with temptations ranging from vacation packages to designer furniture.

David Brunetti, one of two executive producers for the event, told the B.A.R. that this year's Oscar-night event looks to be better than ever.

"We were very concerned about the level of support this year because of the notion that people think the AIDS crisis is over," Brunetti said. "But we're pleased that the San Francisco community stepped up to the plate 110 percent. Our contributors keep giving more and more, and we may be able to do more granting this year than ever before."

Brunetti said support for this 18th annual event continues to grow because more and more people offer support each year.

"We continue to gain momentum," he said. "We have more production companies, more volunteers, and more resources all because people keep coming to us wanting to help."

Been her?

Brunetti said this year's theme, "Epic: A Night Full of Heroes," will be played out around Festival Pavilion with vignettes from epic Hollywood films such as *Ben Hur*, *Gone With the Wind*, and *Titanic*.

Attendees can also play the part by dressing in "Epic Fantasy"



Beemer dreamer: Friends' Ken Wingard checks out the primo raffle prize, the Z-3 roadster, on Castro St. March 15, as James Hubbard (rear) sells the \$100 tickets.

or a more conservative black tie.

Party-goers will be treated to samples of food and wine from many of the Bay Area's most illustrious restaurants, caterers, and wineries.

Following the award presentations, music and dancing will last through the night.

Founded in 1980 by Kile Ozier, the Academy of Friends has raised more than \$1.8 million in private donations for Bay Area HIV and AIDS service providers. The Oscar-night party is its main event of the year.

In addition to the Academy Awards, a few awards are handed out in San Francisco as well: the Kile Ozier Award for exemplary volunteer service in the fight against HIV/AIDS. This year's recipients are Steven Sams of Pacific Bell, for his efforts on behalf of the AIDS Walk and other organizations; and the UC Berkeley chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed fraternity whose members volunteer many hours with numerous HIV/AIDS groups.

Last year's event raised a record-setting \$360,000 in donations, and organizers expect this year's event to raise even more for its eight selected beneficiaries.

The 1998 beneficiaries are: AIDS Benefits Counselors; AIDS Community Network in Richmond; AIDS Resources, Information & Services (ARIS) of Santa Clara County; Bay Area Young Positives; ELLIPSE Peninsula AIDS Services in San Mateo County; Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project; Marin AIDS Project; and New Leaf Services for our Community.

Tickets to AOF's Oscar-night event are \$125 in advance. For tickets or more information, call 252-0713 or stop by Academy of Friends' shop at 531 Castro Street (in front of The Patio restaurant) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. this Saturday or Sunday. Tickets will also be available for a higher price at the door.

Information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.aofcharity.org/>.

RuPaul featured at Napa Oscar gala

by Shan Schwartz

The "Supermodel of the World," RuPaul, will be on hand as the Napa Valley hosts its own Oscar-night event benefiting local AIDS services.

The Tenth Annual Napa Valley Academy Awards Benefit begins at 5 p.m. in Chardonnay Hall at the Napa Valley Exposition, located at 575 Third Street in downtown Napa.

"We'll Always Be Together" is the message for this year's benefit, going along with a tribute to the movie *Grease*. Halls and tents at the

event will be set up to take attendees back to the "fabulous fifties."

To go along with the theme, guests are invited to wear '50s attire. Or those wishing to emulate their favorite movie star from any era are encouraged to enter this year's star look-alike contest, "The Drag Race," named in honor of the featured entertainer.

Admission includes a live large-screen simulcast of the Academy Awards, free refreshments from dozens of Napa Valley's restaurants, caterers, wineries and breweries, live entertainment, and a night full of dancing following the Oscars. RuPaul will

begin the dance show, followed by music DJ'ed by Rotten Robbie.

Over the last 10 years, the event has raised more than \$250,000 to help those living with AIDS in Napa Valley. This year's proceeds benefit the HIV Network at Queen of the Valley Hospital and the Napa Valley AIDS Project. ▼

Tickets are \$58 for general admission, \$800 for a reserved table of ten, and \$100 for the black tie dinner. Tickets are available at all Northern California BASS outlets or by calling (707) 257-8686.

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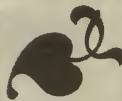


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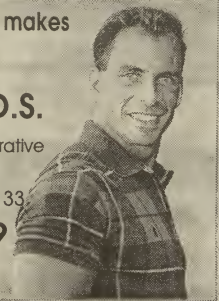


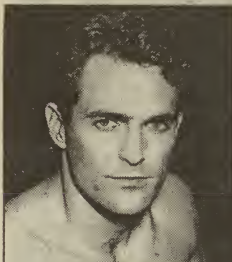
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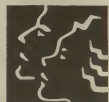
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You ought to be in pictures

JANE PHILIPSON/CELEBRITY

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav threw a Hollywood Purim fiesta March 11 at the Annunciation Cathedral on Valencia Street. Partygoers dressed as their favorite movie stars (and other luminaries) and enjoyed the Megillah reading, kids' parade, various contests and, of course, the noshes and schmoozing. Here Liberace (Sam Messier) openly covets the tiara of Queen Vashti (Joe Hample). Purim, the Feast of Lots, is a joyful celebration that commemorates the deliverance of the Persian Jews from massacre by Haman through the intervention of Esther and Mordecai.

Magical musical Rainbow in Pleasant Hill

by Terrance Boykin

The Rainbow Community Center in Contra Costa County is bringing in the spring season with the introduction of its first coffee house night this Saturday, March 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. The Rainbow Cafe: An RCC Night of Poetry, Music and Magic is the beginning of the social and special events committee's efforts to showcase the many talented local artists within the community.

The center will be decorated like a coffee house, and the cafe ambiance will be created with dim lights and candles. The showcase will include interactive magic, several poetry readings, and a variety of musical styles ranging from jazz and Latin musicians to acoustic guitarists with vocalists.

Elizabeth Faletti is the organizer of the event and one of the evening's many performance artists. A native of Contra Costa County, Faletti is a singer/songwriter and acoustic guitarist. She told the B.A.R., "With this show, we didn't want to go outside of our community to find talent. The whole focus of the Rainbow Cafe is to celebrate the diversity within our own community in Contra Costa county. Some of the people who are performing have the 9 to 5 kind of job and they're also doing other things.

"I have been working with the Rainbow Community Center since December of 1996," she said.

"I've always wanted to get a social event together that revolved around the arts, and now we have a place where people can express themselves and share their talents."

The Rainbow Community Center, located at 2637 Pleasant Hill Road in Pleasant Hill, is in its second year of operation. The center provides social, educational, and support services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people throughout the community.

The entertainment

The interactive magic portion of Saturday evening's program will showcase the many talents of Gregg Abbott. Known for designing mystical interior murals throughout the Walnut Creek area, Abbott started doing magic as a teenager for children's parties and later traveled around the U.S. for over a decade performing at small shows and corporate functions. Not wanting to spoil the night's surprises, he hinted to the Bay Area Reporter that his brand of innovative illusions will be a skillful interplay between the magician and the cafe audience.

Carol Truitt is a poet and an active member of the Wise Women's Group at RCC, a social group for lesbian/bi-sexual and transgender women over forty. She works with children and adults with disabilities, and has been received as a feature poet for readings at the San Francisco Library, Small Press Traffic, and at several bookstores throughout the

Bay Area. Truitt describes her style of writing as energetic, light, and very playful. She said, "I have always written poetry, but I didn't begin taking it seriously until I was in my late twenties."

"The RCC is a great place to be," she added. "The people are caring and you feel relaxed and accepted on every level."

The mix of poets and storytellers will also include the jazz and blues styles of vocalist Elly Bishop, who gained some of her experience in voice and performance at the Berkeley College of Music in Boston. Although dedicated to her career in Marketing at TCI Cable, Bishop told the B.A.R., "I am excited about the opportunity to perform within my own community, where I feel I am supported."

The social and special events committee at the center expressed that the Rainbow Cafe could become an ongoing bi-monthly or quarterly event. Upcoming events include a Rainbow Arts Show scheduled for this July. ▼

A \$5 donation at the door will include entertainment, coffee/juice, and a variety of homemade baked goods. The proceeds from the event will go to support the center. To reserve seating or to participate in future Rainbow Cafe showcases, call Elizabeth Faletti at the Rainbow Community Center at (925) 210-0563.

**Learn how to prepare for more of El Niño
at East Bay business group mixer**

by Cynthia Laird

Given the damage suffered by homeowners and others during this El Niño season, the east Bay Business and Professional Alliance's upcoming open house is most appropriate; it's being held at Honey...Do Repair, Inc. in Oakland tonight (Thursday, March 19). Owner Philip Anderson, a licensed contractor, invites Alliance members and others who are interested in preparing for the next flood or other disaster to come see the firm's new offices.

People can learn a lot at the mixer as well as use up some of those business cards while networking with other gay, lesbian, and bisexual business owners and

professionals. Anderson said he'll provide the basics to people so they can learn how to evaluate their disaster preparedness and fire safety awareness; brace tall furniture and water heaters; bolt or shear wall a foundation; and assemble a personal earthquake emergency kit. Anderson also has a sense of humor even when dealing with such a serious issue; he said his personal favorite tip that he'll share is how to assemble a field toilet.

Food and beverages will be provided to go along with the illuminative conversation. Honey...Do Repair is celebrating the beginning of its 10th year in business, Anderson added.

The Alliance has also just finished taking advertisements from

members for its all-new 1998 directory; 5,000 copies will be printed soon. And for the first time, a professional distribution service will be used to ensure the directory is available to the general public throughout the year at bookstores, shops, restaurants, bars, and community centers. The Alliance has over 140 members throughout the East Bay and was formed in 1993. ▼

The open house takes place from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Honey...Do Repair is located at 11881 Skyline Blvd. at 35th Avenue and Redwood Road off of Interstate 580. For directions or more information, call (510) 531-9527.

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FAIR LAW FAIR HEARING

Millennium March on Washington announced for 2000

March gains endorsers, but some question strategy

by Vicky Kolakowski

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) have announced plans to co-organize a fourth March on Washington to be held in the spring of 2000. The "Millennium March" would be produced by Robin Tyler, who was involved in organizing and producing the previous marches in 1979, 1987, and 1993.

"This march will set a new tone for a new century," HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch said in making the announcement last month. "Full equality under the law will be our achievement in the new millennium." Despite Birch's optimism, some activists with a more local or grassroots focus have questioned the notion that a march on Washington is a constructive way to promote the interests of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities across the country. Jerry Sloan, co-organizer of Project Tocsin, a Sacramento-based watchdog group that tracks religious right-wing political activity in California, doesn't believe that holding another national march is a good approach to political organizing.

"We need to get back to more grassroots organizing," Sloan told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The religious right has been so successful because of grassroots organizing. We need to do so, too."

Local activist Tommi Avicelli Mecca questions whether there is a point to holding another march. "This is the most ridiculous idea," Mecca told the *B.A.R.* "It's a waste of money, resources, and time."

The Reverend Troy Perry, founder and moderator of the UFMCC, disagrees. In a letter sent to march supporters March 4, he noted that it will be seven years between marches, and that elected officials have short memories. "It's already been too long," he wrote.

"It will birth a new generation of activists. Each of our previous marches has served to birth new activists," Perry added. "It will energize our movement."

Sloan acknowledges that the 1987 march resulted in a rise in activism, but believes that the 1993 march didn't have the same results. Mecca agrees, and argues that this is because there were points to holding the first two marches (response to the assassination of Harvey Milk, the Briggs Initiative, and the Anita Bryant anti-gay hysteria in 1979, and response to the heavy toll of AIDS in 1987) which were missing from the third, and which he argues is missing from the proposed Millennium March as well.

Fifty state marches

The proposal to hold another March on Washington is also complicated by the fact that NGLTF had already been meeting with other organizations for almost a year promoting a plan to hold 50 state marches or other actions in 1999. While this proposal doesn't directly conflict with the plans for a national march (NGLTF is a co-sponsor of the

Millennium March), some activists such as Sloan see the 50 state march/actions approach as a better focus for activism.

"Let's use the dawn of a new millennium as the time to make our activism count at the local and state level," wrote NGLTF Executive Director Kerry Lobel in her March 1 monthly letter. She argues that the political battleground for gay and lesbian rights has shifted from the national level to the state and local levels, and that future political activity should reflect that shift.

The disagreements over march strategy led to the Millennium March organizing being temporarily suspended earlier this month. "We had taken a time out," Birch told the *B.A.R.* A decision was reached by march organizers to proceed with both na-

tional and 50 state marches. Birch said that they will "move forward carefully. Nobody wants to leave out anybody."

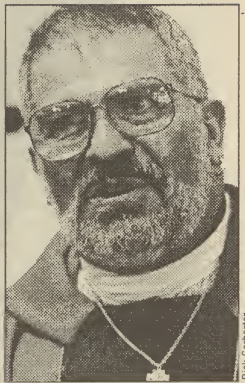
Sloan prefers to move forward only with the 50 state marches, arguing that Lobel was correct in noting a shift to local activity, and that the political successes of the radical religious right have come at the local level. He argues that none of the national political groups has widespread local constituencies, and that emphasizing local marches rather than a single national march would promote developing those local constituencies.

Sloan sees the important political efforts as being the traditional bread-and-butter work of local campaigns, such as voter registration, voter identification, and get-out-the-vote campaigns, which he

calls "the dirty grunt work, which nobody wants to do."

Sloan contends that up to a half-billion dollars would be spent by gays and lesbians on travel-related expenses to attend the march. "What if we took that money and put it into local organizations?" he asked, referring to local political organizations.

Mecca agrees the community should use the money locally, but proposes funding social programs and community centers to support the tangible needs of local gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. "What better goal is there for the new millennium than to feed and house people and to fight anti-gay violence?" he asked. Mecca cited the failure of the gay and lesbian community to immediately organize a vigil and march in response to last week-

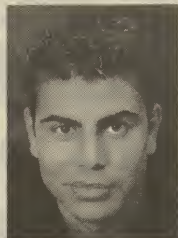


Troy Perry

end's hate crime murder of Brian Wilmes as evidence that "we need to revitalize our local community first." ▼



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Rally Tuesday in San Francisco to support medical marijuana

by Liz Highleyman

A "Patients' March for Medical Rights" will be held Tuesday, March 24 to protest actions taken by the federal government against local medical marijuana clubs.

The rally will take place on the day of a U.S. District Court hearing in San Francisco on a federal lawsuit filed in January by U.S. Attorney Michael Yamaguchi against six medical cannabis establishments in San Francisco, Marin, Oakland, Santa Cruz, and Ukiah. Yamaguchi argued that federal laws prohibiting the sale of marijuana take precedence over state laws such as Proposition 215, which was passed by 56 percent of California voters in November 1996. The proposition allows for the cultivation and possession of medical cannabis by

people with a variety of medical conditions, including AIDS, cancer, and glaucoma, but does not make any provision for purchasing or selling marijuana. It is expected that Judge Charles Breyer will issue a preliminary injunction against marijuana

and Market. The march will proceed to the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium on Grove Street, where the annual AIDS Update Conference will be underway. March organizers hope to bring the medical cannabis issue to the attention of, and garner the support of, the many medical professionals and advocates for people with HIV/AIDS who will be attending the meeting.

... I believe Jesus would have distributed marijuana under these circumstances."

Doctor support

Following breakfast, the march will depart at 11 a.m. from the rainbow flag at Castro

conference at noon. Speakers will include Supervisors Tom Ammann and Gavin Newsom, Kevin Zeese of Common Sense for Drug Policy, West Hollywood Mayor Steve Martin, District Attorney Terence Hallinan, and several patients who use medical marijuana.

According to march organizers, Tuesday's events are being sponsored by a broad-based coalition of religious, labor, medical and civil rights groups — the same groups that supported the passage of Proposition 215. Says organizer Gilbert Baker, "the focus of these events is on our right to access medical marijuana ... medical marijuana is truly saving lives."

In related news, no enforcement measures have yet been taken against the Cannabis Cultivators Club following the February 25 decision by the California Supreme Court not to hear the appeal of an earlier Superior Court ruling against the club, despite Attorney General Dan Lungren's letter to Superior Court Judge David Garcia stating the club was in violation of an injunction. ▼

"I believe sick people should have access to substances that relieve pain or symptoms ... I believe Jesus would have distributed marijuana under these circumstances."

— MCC's Reverend Jim Mitulski

sales by the clubs.

In keeping with the march theme of "Keep the Faith with the Voters," the day will begin with a prayer breakfast to be held at the Metropolitan Community Church at 150 Eureka Street at 8 a.m. Organizers ex-

pect clergy from various congregations to lend their support and to "pray for God's wisdom for those who are suffering." The MCC was instrumental in helping to provide medical marijuana during a temporary closure

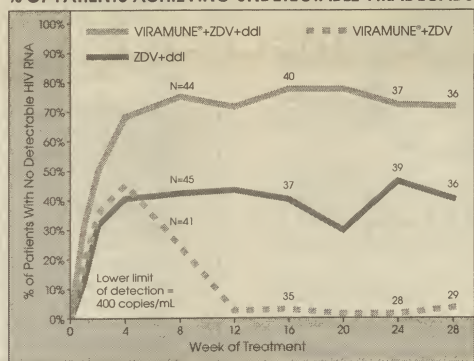
MCC's Reverend Jim Mitulski says, "I believe sick people should have access to substances that relieve pain or symptoms

and Market. The march will proceed to the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium on Grove Street, where the annual AIDS Update Conference will be underway. March organizers hope to bring the medical cannabis issue to the attention of, and garner the support of, the many medical professionals and advocates for people with HIV/AIDS who will be attending the meeting.

Marchers will then proceed to the federal courthouse at 450 Golden Gate for a rally and press

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HIFY to spotlight youth at AIDS Update Conference

by Cynthia Laird

Youth will be in the spotlight at the upcoming 10th National AIDS Update Conference; Health Initiatives for Youth (HIFY) will address the profound effect the HIV epidemic has had on adolescents and young adults through a series of events at the March 24-27 conference taking place at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco.

A "Youth Kick-off" takes place Tuesday, March 24 that will include a pre-conference orientation with youth from around the country. Resources available to youth during the conference will be provided and after the orientation youth are invited to hang out at a local pizzeria compliments of HIFY. During the conference, a number of youth-oriented events will take place, under the banner theme of "Learn and Live."

"Young people living with and affected by HIV have been involved in all aspects of planning the conference's youth activities," said Brett VanBenschoten, HIFY staff member and a young person living with HIV. "We want to help young people feel they can make a difference in their lives and their communities."

"Learn and Live" will feature 16 workshops devoted to youth issues, along with a range of other activities such as youth theater, art, and video. Organizers said that approximately 3,000 people are expected to attend the conference this year. A youth plenary session is scheduled for the morning of Thursday, March 26. Speakers will include Antigone Hodgins, a HIV activist and the first executive director of the peer-run Bay Area Young Positives agency; Margaret Campbell,

a young woman from Boston living with HIV; Kareem Strong, a young man living with HIV; and Dr. Steven Tierney, HIFY's executive director.

There are a limited number of scholarships available for people living with HIV/AIDS who cannot afford the discounted \$110 rate; the fee is the same for students with identification.

HIFY staff stated research indicates that half of all new HIV infections in the United States occur in someone under the age of 26. In San Francisco, the Department of Public Health (DPH) estimates that more than 4,700 youth between the ages of 12 and 24 are infected with HIV — more than three percent of the city's entire youth population. More than 22,000 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed in youth between the ages of 13 and 24.

HIFY's mission is to improve the health and well-being of all young people. In collaboration with other agencies serving youth, HIFY advocates for and with youth at the local, state, and national levels to address HIV, access to health education and comprehensive care, young women's wellness, and other youth health issues. Activities of the organization include education, training, advocacy, research, and information dissemination. Mervyn's California is a supporter of HIFY and the National AIDS Update Conference. ▼

Youth interested in more information about HIFY or who want to attend the kick-off event should RSVP by calling Anthony Myers at (415) 487-5777, ext. 20. For more information about the conference, call KREBS Convention Management Services at (800) 387-6061.

Nudies! Nudies!!!

Deadline nears for gay unwrap group's first West Coast event

by Shan Schwartz

They've been gathering for years on the East Coast, and now they're headed west: hundreds of naked gay men are gathering in Palm Springs April 22-25. And they want you to join them.

Gay Naturists International, the largest gay naturist organization in the world with over 1500 members worldwide, is hosting their first-ever spring gathering—and first on the West Coast—in a four-day event filled with food, drink, and a schedule full of activities.

For years GNI has hosted an event in Pennsylvania each August, which sells out every year with more than 800 gay men attending, said GNI Event Coordinator Eric Lozier. People come to that event from across the country and even as far away as Hawaii and Australia.

GNI sensed a real interest in holding a gathering more easily reached by naturists in the western United States, according to GNI board member Don King.

"And with Palm Springs' perfect climate already a major destination for clothing-optional and naturist travelers both gay and straight, it seemed the obvious venue," King said.

Lozier told the B.A.R. that the West Coast event will be held on a large private estate with two pools, two spas, large lawns, tennis courts,

and an outdoor dance floor. Activities range from craft shows and talent shows to nightly cocktail parties, dinners, and discos.

"When you get 200 naked sweaty guys all dancing together, it's a lot of fun," Lozier said.

However, some aspects of the Palm Springs event will be more desirable than conditions at the summer East Coast gathering. Lozier said August in the Pocosinocs isn't always very warm, and the food prepared at the camp-

"At a naturist gathering you quickly realize that there are very few perfect bodies in this world."

The West Coast event will have the same spirit as the East Coast gathering, Lozier said, but there will be notable differences. The August gathering in the Poconos takes place at a large campground with lodging, while attendees in Palm Springs must find their own lodging.

ground is, well, "camp food."

"In Palm Springs, we expect it to be hot," Lozier said. "There'll be warmer weather, and with our food being catered by the Hyatt, it will be superb."

But like the East Coast gathering, he said, the West Coast event will be full of activities. On Wednesday and Saturday of that week, activities will begin at 10 a.m. and include lunch and dinner. On Thursday and Friday, activities will begin at 1 p.m. and include dinner only. Activities at prior events have included erotic photography, body painting, talent shows, bodybuilding contests, and athletic events.

Not all about sex

Activities in the Palm Springs event will end at 10 p.m. each evening due to local noise ordinances, Lozier said. But event participants can then put their clothes back on and return to their guest houses, or go on to the night life Palm Springs has to offer. Several night clubs will allow GNI event-goers to waive the cover charge on the nights of the event, Lozier said.

Trey Hunt, a GNI member from Palm Springs, said that although there might be some sexual charge to the nudist event, the naturist movement is about accepting and celebrating people's bodies just the way they are.

"A lot of people, gay and straight, hear the words 'gay' and 'nude' together and assume it's all about sex," Hunt said. "They are also intimidated by imaging an event full of gym-toned perfect gay bodies."

"But at a naturist gathering you quickly realize that there are very few perfect bodies in this world. And when everyone is naked, the sexual charge usually associated with nudity by our society is quickly diffused by the level playing field."

The four-day event costs \$170, or day passes can be purchased for \$44 per day. The price includes meals, drinks, and all event activities. It is open to anyone interested, but registration must be done in advance, by April 5. Further information and registration materials are available by mail or telephone request. ▼

More information and numerous pictures from past events are available on GNI's web site at www.gaynaturists.org/gni.html. A mail-in registration form is also available on the web. Contact GNI at P.O. Box 7150, Corte Madera, CA 94976, or by calling (415) 924-1547.

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THE DURATION OF BENEFIT FROM ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY MAY BE LIMITED. ALTERATION OF ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IF DISEASE PROGRESSION OCCURS WHILE PATIENTS ARE RECEIVING VIRAMUNE.

RESISTANT VIRUS EMERGES RAPIDLY AND UNIFORMLY WHEN VIRAMUNE IS ADMINISTERED AS MONOTHERAPY. THEREFORE, VIRAMUNE SHOULD ALWAYS BE ADMINISTERED IN COMBINATION WITH AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL ANTIRETROVIRAL AGENT.

VIRAMUNE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SEVERE RASH, WHICH IN SOME CASES HAVE BEEN LIFE-THREATENING. WHEN SEVERE RASH OCCURS, VIRAMUNE MUST BE DISCONTINUED.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: VIRAMUNE is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components contained in the tablet.

WARNINGS: Severe and life-threatening skin reactions have occurred in patients treated with VIRAMUNE, including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS). VIRAMUNE must be discontinued in patients developing a severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, lethargy, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise. (See PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients, ADVERSE REACTIONS)

VIRAMUNE therapy must be initiated with a 14-day lead-in period of 200 mg/day, which has been shown to reduce the frequency of rash. Dose escalation should not occur if rash is observed during this lead-in period until the rash has resolved. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

PRECAUTIONS: General: When administering VIRAMUNE as part of an antiretroviral treatment regimen, the complete product information for each therapeutic component should be consulted before initiation of treatment.

While niraparine is extensively metabolized by the liver and niraparine metabolites are extensively eliminated by the kidneys, the pharmacokinetics of niraparine have not been evaluated in patients with either hepatic or renal dysfunction. Therefore, VIRAMUNE should be used with caution in these patient populations.

Abnormal liver function tests have been reported with VIRAMUNE: some in the first few weeks of therapy, including cases of hepatitis. VIRAMUNE administration should be interrupted in patients experiencing moderate or severe liver function test abnormalities until liver function tests return to baseline values. VIRAMUNE treatment should be permanently discontinued if liver function abnormalities recur on readministration.

Drug Interactions: Although clinical studies have not been conducted, induction of CYP3A by niraparine may result in lower plasma concentrations of other concomitantly administered drugs that are extensively metabolized by CYP3A. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY) Thus, if a patient has been stabilized on a dosage regimen for a drug metabolized by CYP3A, and begins treatment with VIRAMUNE, dose adjustments may be necessary.

Ritampir/Ribavirin: There are insufficient data to assess whether dose adjustments are necessary when niraparine and ritampir or ribavirin are coadministered. Therefore, these drugs should only be used in combination if clearly indicated and with careful monitoring.

Protease Inhibitors: Niraparine may decrease plasma concentrations of protease inhibitors. Therefore, until clinical data are available that evaluate the need for dose adjustments, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE.

Oral Contraceptives: There are no clinical data on the effects of niraparine on the pharmacokinetics of oral contraceptives. Niraparine may decrease plasma concentrations of oral contraceptives (also other hormonal contraceptives); therefore, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE.

Information for Patients: Patients should be informed that VIRAMUNE is not a cure for HIV-1 infection, and that they may continue to experience illnesses associated with advanced HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with VIRAMUNE has not been shown to reduce the incidence or frequency of such illnesses, and patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using VIRAMUNE.

Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIRAMUNE are unknown at this time. They should also be informed that VIRAMUNE therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV-1 to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be instructed that the major toxicity of VIRAMUNE is rash and should be advised to promptly notify their physician of any rash. The majority of rashes associated with VIRAMUNE occur within the first 6 weeks of initiation of therapy. Therefore, patients should be monitored carefully for the appearance of rash during this period. Patients should be instructed that dose escalation is not to occur if any rash occurs during the two-week lead-in dosing period, until the rash resolves. Any patient experiencing severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, lethargy, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise should discontinue medication and consult a physician.

Patients should be informed to take VIRAMUNE every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose without consulting their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the next dose as soon as possible. However, if a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

VIRAMUNE may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other medications.

Patients should be instructed that oral contraceptives and other hormonal methods of birth control should not be used as a method of contraception in women taking VIRAMUNE.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies of niraparine in animals are currently in progress. In genetic toxicology assays, niraparine showed no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic activity in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays including microbial assays for gene mutation (Ames, *Salmonella* strains and *E. coli*), mammalian cell gene mutation assays (CHO/HGPRT), cytogenetic assays using a Chinese hamster ovary cell line and a mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay following oral administration. In reproductive toxicology studies, evidence of impaired fertility was seen in female rats at doses providing systemic exposure, based on AUC, approximately equivalent to that provided with the recommended clinical dose of VIRAMUNE.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C: No observable teratogenicity was detected in reproductive studies performed in pregnant rats and rabbits. In rats, a significant decrease in fetal body weight occurred at doses providing systemic exposure approximately 50% higher, based on AUC, than that seen at the recommended human clinical dose. The maternal and developmental no-observable-effect level dosages in rats and rabbits produced systemic exposures approximately equivalent to or approximately 50% higher, respectively, than those seen at the recommended daily human dose, based on AUC. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. VIRAMUNE should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Mothers: Preliminary results from an ongoing pharmacokinetic study (ACTG 25D) of 10 HIV-1-infected pregnant women who were administered a single oral dose of 100 or 200 mg VIRAMUNE at a median of 5.8 hours before delivery, indicate that niraparine readily crosses the placenta and is found in breast milk. Consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV, mothers should discontinue nursing if they are receiving VIRAMUNE.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness of VIRAMUNE in pediatric patients have not been established. VIRAMUNE has been studied in two open-label, uncontrolled trials (BI 882, BI 892) in 37 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients with a median age of 0.9 years (range: 0.1 to 15 years) who were treated for a median duration of 20.7 months. Seven patients developed rashes while receiving VIRAMUNE. In an ongoing, controlled trial of VIRAMUNE combination therapy in HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (ACTG 245), one of approximately 288 patients treated with VIRAMUNE experienced Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Because there are no data on multi-dose pharmacokinetics in children, no recommendation on dosing can be made. Based on single-dose pharmacokinetics in 9 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (age 9 mos. to 14 years) who were administered niraparine in a suspension formulation, it appears that oral clearance is approximately 2-fold greater in children when compared to adults.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: The most frequently reported adverse events related to VIRAMUNE therapy were rash, fever, nausea, headache, and abnormal liver function tests.

The major clinical toxicity of VIRAMUNE is rash, with VIRAMUNE-attributable rash occurring in 17% of patients in combination regimens in Phase III controlled studies. Thirty-seven percent of patients treated with VIRAMUNE experienced rash compared with 20% of patients treated in control groups of either ZDV+ddI or ZDV alone (Table 1). Severe or life-threatening rash occurred in 7.6% of VIRAMUNE-treated patients compared with 1.2% of patients treated in the control groups. Rashes are usually mild to moderate, maculopapular erythematous cutaneous eruptions, with or without pruritus, located on the trunk, face and extremities. The majority of severe rashes occurred within the first 28 days of treatment; 25% of the patients with severe rashes required hospitalization; and one patient required surgical intervention. All patients recovered. Overall, 7% of patients discontinued VIRAMUNE due to rash.

Table 1. Percentage of patients with rashes in controlled trials^a

	ACTG 241 ^b		BI 1037		BI 1011		COMBINED DATA	
	NVP+ZDV+ddI	ZDV+ddI	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP	CONTROL
n	197	201	30	30	25	24	252	255
Rash events of all Grades and all causality	39.6%	23.9%	26.7%	6.7%	32.0%	4.2%	37.3%	20.0%
Grade 3 or 4 rash events, all causality	8.1%	1.5%	3.3%	0%	8.0%	0%	7.6%	1.2%

^a At recommended dose of one 200 mg tablet daily for the first 14 days followed by one 200 mg tablet twice daily.

^b Trial ACTG 241 was designed to report Grade 3/4 (severe or life-threatening) events; except for several pre-specified events including rash for which all grades are reported.

Table 2 lists treatment-related clinical adverse events that occurred in patients receiving VIRAMUNE in ACTG 241 and in Trials BI 1037 and BI 1011.

Table 2. Comparative Incidence of Selected Drug-Related Events in Controlled Trials

	ACTG 241		Trial BI 1037 and BI 1011	
	Grade 3/4 events		All severities	
	NVP+ZDV+ddI	ZDV+ddI	NVP+ZDV	ZDV alone
Number of patients	197	201	55	30
Overall incidence of related adverse events	31%	23%	42%	33%
Rash	8	2	20	3
Fever	3	3	11	3
Nausea	5	4	9	3
Headache	3	3	11	0
Diarrhea	2	2	0	0
Abdominal pain	1	2	2	0
Ulcerative stomatitis	0	0	4	0
Peripheral Neuropathy	0	2	0	0
Parosmia	1	0	2	0
Myalgia	1	0	2	7
Hepatitis	1	0	4	0

Laboratory Abnormalities: Table 3 summarizes marked laboratory abnormalities occurring in three controlled studies.

Table 3. Percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities

	Data combined for controlled trials ACTG 241, BI 1037 & BI 1011	
	VIRAMUNE n=252	Control n=255
Hematology		
Decreased Hg (<8 g/dL)	1.2%	2.0%
Decreased platelets (<50,000/mm ³)	0.8	0.8
Decreased neutrophils (<750/mm ³)	11.1	10.2
Blood chemistry		
Increased ALT (>250 U/L)	3.4	3.5
Increased AST (>250 U/L)	2.0	2.4
Increased GGT (>450 U/L)	2.4	1.2
Increased total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	0.4	1.2

Asymptomatic elevations in GGT levels are more frequent in VIRAMUNE recipients than in controls. Because hepatitis has occasionally been reported in VIRAMUNE-treated patients, monitoring of liver function tests should be considered.

OVERDOSEAGE: There is no known antidote for VIRAMUNE overdose. No acute toxicities or sequelae were reported for one patient who ingested 800 mg of VIRAMUNE for one day.

CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS DISPENSING WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION

Reference: 1. Data on file, Roxane Laboratories, Inc.

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RX-1841BW2 (2/98)

Piss off in the desert

Cathedral City mayor tries to stop Waterboys

by Harry McCann

A move to ban the upcoming Wet 'n Hot '98 festival in Cathedral City, California fizzled on Wednesday, February 25. The death knell came when the city council failed to respond to requests by Mayor David Berry to discuss the festival and possibly cancel it.

Wet 'n Hot '98 — a festival of gay people involved and interested in "water sports" or urine-related sexual gratification — is scheduled for mid-July. A similar event last year drew some 500 people to Cathedral City, adjacent to Palm Springs, and accounted for heavy bookings in area hotels and resorts.

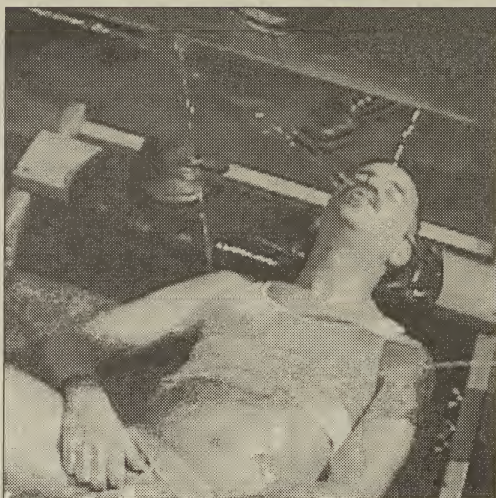
Charlie Sharples, who manages the Cathedral City Boys Club (CCBC), said the event last year "was peaceful. There weren't any problems at all," Sharples added. "The mayor isn't a homophobe. He just likes to jump on any bandwagon that might get him votes."

The "bandwagon" in this case was an informal citizens group, Clean Up Cathedral City. According to city council member and mayoral candidate Greg Pettis, the citizens group consisted of four people. Two of them, Gary Clark and Dean Carlson, are gay; the others are minister Ray Wardlaw and twice-unsuccessful city council candidate Jeff Fidler. Pettis said Fidler might be a candidate for city council again this year.

What has become a non-controversy started when the Clean Up group members came across the website for Wet 'n Hot '98. The site has warnings that it contains sexually explicit material. The Clean Up group contacted Berry, who was quoted in the *Desert Sun* as saying about the event, "This is absolutely sick."

He then, according to Pettis, went to the police department to have it prohibit the festival. The police had no jurisdiction, since no laws were being broken.

The mayor then went to the city attorney, who likewise declined to take any action. Thinking to attack from a different direction, he called the County Department of Health, and the State of California Department of Health. Neither of these agencies were willing or able to prevent the



Depends...

festival, which prompted Berry to contact the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. Stymied there as well, he hoped to bring the matter before the city council. When the council refused to take any action, the matter was all but decided. "There was no violation of the municipal code, so there was no action to take," Pettis said.

Sharples said the only avenue left for opponents of the festival is the city's zoning ordinance. "They say we are, because of the festival, a 'sexually-oriented business.' We're not zoned for that."

Pettis believes the zoning challenge to be weak at best.

"There are two generally accepted 'tests' for 'sexually-orient-

ed' zoning. First, are the activities regular, do they take place on a regular basis? Second, does the hotel receive a 'key' portion of its income from such activity?" The festival is centered at the CCBC, but attendees have already booked or are expected to completely book three resorts in Cathedral City, plus three in Palm Springs.

Pettis concludes that it is now a dead issue.

"When the local newspaper editorializes that the event should go on, it is a good indication it will. The *Desert Sun* ran an editorial condemning the actual activ-

ities, but supporting the right of the participants to have a festival."

Pettis said he thought the controversy was "too far out" in time to affect the mayoral election. "Somebody may drag it out later, but even the few people who spoke at the council meeting favored letting the festival take place," he said.

The mayoral election will take place in November. ▼

This article first appeared in *Update*, published in San Diego.

RESEARCH STUDY OF HIV-NEGATIVE GAY MEN

I am completing my doctoral dissertation in clinical psychology at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology in Palo Alto, California. Volunteers are needed to complete a 60 to 90 minute questionnaire. The questionnaire examines your feelings about yourself and the world, your sexual activities, and your experiences of personal loss(es) of partners, friends, and acquaintances to AIDS. Volunteers must be HIV-negative, reside within the San Francisco Bay Area, and be between the ages of 18 to 44.

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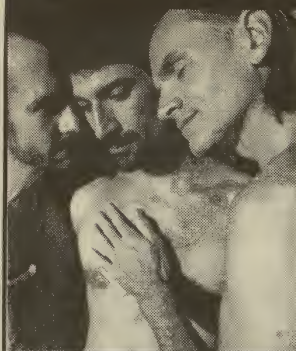


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Murder

◀ page 1

"He once told me if he could teach something new every day, it would make him happy the rest of his life," said Eaton. "He could tell stories and parables in the best way spoken words can. You could be walking down the sidewalk with him and be completely entranced by his parables. He was good at making light of heavy situations. That's something that bonded us."

Flouting the stereotype of a banker, Wilmes "was definitely not straight-laced," said Eaton. "I always call him my quirky friend, he was so eclectic."

Eaton described Wilmes as a "meat and potatoes" kind of guy, a six-foot-tall, 185- to 195-pound handyman who loved building things for people, as well as a motorcyclist who sported full-leather riding gear.

Wilmes was also "was a bit of an intellect," said Eaton. "It's rare when you find someone you can meet on that level. He was very true, spoke his mind, and was very knowledgeable in many areas."

Eaton, too, was in the hospital room as Wilmes lay dying.

"I don't want to remember him that way," Eaton said. "He was lying there, and the ventilator was forcing his breathing. He didn't look like the friend I know."

The way to take solace in Wilmes' premature demise, Eaton said, is to remember that Wilmes himself considered death a positive thing: "He believed that in passing on, you transcend into another existence. It wasn't

the end of anything."

Asked how he felt about Wilmes's alleged attacker, 25-year-old Edgar Mora of South San Francisco — who remains in jail without bail, charged by District Attorney Terence Hallinan's office with homicide motivated by anti-gay hatred, as well as with assault — Eaton replied, "I don't want to think about that. I don't like hatred, and don't want to expend my energy on that. I hope justice will be served. But I don't want to spend any time thinking about that person. I'm not going to let anyone take my positive feelings away from Brian."

Mystery woman unchanged

Those who witnessed the assault on Wilmes, or who arrived on the scene soon thereafter, described an event both seemingly irrational yet terrifyingly real.

Tim Carroll of Sacramento, who had been accompanying Wilmes to the Loading Dock, told police he saw a man, later identified by investigators as Mora, "acting crazy" on the sidewalk.

Homicide Inspector Napoleon Hendrix, in piecing together what happened, said that Mora, described by witnesses as a shirtless, 200-225-pound man, possibly wearing sweat pants and black combat boots, was apparently intoxicated and "out of control."

According to Hendrix's reconstruction of the events, and to witness accounts recorded by officers responding to a 911 call from the Loading Dock's indoor pay phone at 10:05 p.m. Thursday, Mora — initially identified only as "the suspect" — had been arguing with a woman companion who later drove him away from the scene. (The woman's name is being withheld by police, pending further investigation into her role in the incident.)

Mora had torn his shirt off his body and was rampaging down the street, hitting a passing bicyclist, kicking passing cars, and trying to break the glass of a bus shelter. When a homeless man, Michael Gillespie, urged Mora to calm down, Mora reportedly struck Gillespie on the back of the head.

Witnesses told police that Mora then crossed the street and started pounding on the door of the Jon Sims Center, a rehearsal space serving queer performing artists. Unsuccessful in his attempts to get in, Mora then turned on Wilmes, who was just arriving at the Loading Dock next door, accompanied by a casual friend, Tim Carroll of Sacramento.

According to witness accounts given to the police, Mora was yelling anti-gay slurs, and screamed at Wilmes, "Do you want a piece of me?" At that, he struck Wilmes in the mouth, knocking him down and causing his head to strike the sidewalk and lose consciousness. Mora then ran across the street and got into a blue compact car that fled westbound on Mission Street.

In Gillespie's account to the police, the woman driving the car in which Mora subsequently sped away at some point called to Mora by his first name, Edgar, and shouted at him to stop. Unfortunately for Wilmes, her voice had no effect.

Based on the car's license plate number, recorded by Gillespie (and perhaps others) at the scene, police officer Henry Seto and inspector Allan Duncan were able to track down Mora and arrest him at his home.

"He put up no resistance," said Seto.

'I told him he'd be okay'

Apparently just moments after Mora left the scene, members of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, who had been stuffing envelopes upstairs in the Jon Sims Center, came out of the building, onto the sidewalk, unaware that an attack had occurred.

"We had heard a big crash on the door of the Sims Center," said Lucifer, one of the first to emerge, but "thought it was kids going by hitting the door."

But when recently retired registered nurse Lucifer saw Wilmes, dressed in full leather, lying on the ground, bleeding at the mouth, apparently hit, he immediately sprang to Wilmes's side, sending Carroll to phone 911 from inside the bar.

"The guy was awake," said Lucifer. "His eyes were glued open."

His observation appears to square with that of responding police officer Michael Petuya, who reported that Wilmes, while in the back of the ambulance at the scene, "told me that he lost consciousness and was unable to remember the incident."

Apparently Wilmes flustered back into a brief, dim consciousness after first being knocked out.

"At first he was unresponsive," continued Lucifer, who kept his finger on Wilmes's pulse to make sure he was alive. "I asked him to squeeze my hand, and he did. I said my name, and told him he'd be okay. I put my long wool coat over him to keep him warm. I kept talking to keep him awake. His grasp got stronger. He started to mumble, making gurgling noises. Somebody wanted to take his pants off, to loosen his clothes, because he was really sweaty," but Lucifer resisted the suggestion, saying that Wilmes should be kept as warm as possible.

Once the ambulance arrived, Lucifer let the attendants take over, gathered his coat, and left for home.

"Afterward," said Lucifer, "I started shaking and crying."

'Get involved'

Mark Dreier, owner of the Loading Dock, in front of which the murder occurred, gave high praise to the ambulance crew, which arrived in about two and a half minutes of the 911 call; police, who arrived shortly thereafter; and, especially, homeless citizen Gillespie, who had the presence of mind to record the get-away car's license number, which allowed police to arrest Mora.

"I've been Gillespie's contact since that night," said Dreier, who said Gillespie is "a true vagabond" who shies away from public scrutiny.

Still, Gillespie was at City Hall on Monday to receive a commendation from the Board of Supervisors, who praised him for his role in helping police to apprehend Mora.

The moral of the story, said Dreier, is "we all need to pay a little more attention to our surroundings. And don't be afraid to get involved. The killer of one of our own is in jail because someone not of our community got involved." ▼

Police department homicide inspectors continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of Brian Wilmes. The department urges witnesses to contact Inspector Napoleon Hendrix, at (415) 553-9124.

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Two groups collaborate on PWA services

IAM CARES Life Program helps clients and employers

by Cynthia Laird

Living with HIV/AIDS and deciding to enter or re-enter the work force has jumped to the forefront in San Francisco as agencies and people living with HIV/AIDS (PWAs) grapple with the changes in the epidemic. Locally, two agencies that help with employment issues have just agreed to collaborate in an effort to provide a strong linkage to both employers and PWAs.

The employment issue was fueled by the Mayor's AIDS Summit in late January that highlighted the city's interest in the opportunities and benefits to be gained by helping people living with HIV/AIDS return to work. Other factors include the Bay Area's growing econ-

omy and the region's 2.8 percent unemployment rate as of December 1997, which shows that more work is being created than there are people to fill the jobs.

As part of a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) between AIDS Benefits Counselor's (ABC) Positive Resource Center and the IAM CARES (International Association of Machinists' Center for Administering Rehabilitation and Employment Services) Life Program, the two community agencies that have been providing these services to PWAs have created specific new ties to combine resources and coordination in an effort to bring more people in contact with available jobs. The MOU was finalized last month.

The Life Program has been funded through a three-year

demonstration grant. It has worked for over a year to build a coalition of businesses, AIDS service organizations (ASOs), state resources, and city policy makers to address the issue of getting PWAs back to work in permanent, fully benefited positions.

Services for employers

Garrett Coulter, service coordinator for IAM CARES Life Program, said the agencies have agreed to collaborate in the design of employer education forums, candidate training resources, new services, and in sharing job announcements from employers specifically looking to hire PWAs. Additionally, both agencies have been working with the predominantly gay Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA), Wells Fargo,

and ProServ Staffing Service to create a gay- and lesbian-based employment funnel, called Positive Impact. Small- to medium-sized businesses in the gay and lesbian community, including GGBA, have already taken advantage of these resources. Large corporations such as Bank of America and Pacific Bell are also utilizing the program.

Coulter said he's especially interested in getting the word out to employers about the Life Program's services, including a work-opportunity tax credit for employers. The agency handles all of the paperwork for the tax break. Currently, the top six areas where IAM CARES clients work are: administrative, 17.5 percent; nonprofit agencies, particularly HIV/AIDS organizations, 13 percent; skilled

and unskilled labor, nine percent; restaurants, eight percent; customer service, seven percent; and marketing, seven percent.

"I think it's going to mean a clear choice of what you want to do," Coulter told the B.A.R., referring to the MOU with ABC. "It will mean a unified approach to serving clients and a unified approach to serving employers. The message... to employers is simple: If you're not already with us, you need to be."

To date, the Life Program has created relationships with 85 of the city's best small and mid-size companies, screened them for their work conditions, examined their prospects for growth, and reviewed their non-discrimination personnel policies. Coulter said other, smaller companies wishing to increase their diversity while making a commitment to ensuring flexibility, support, and confidentiality to their HIV-positive employees can take advantage of an intensive on-location employee training seminar and ongoing workplace policy analysis. The service is provided on a sliding scale fee.

Services for clients

The fact that IAM CARES was started by the machinist's union doesn't mean people have to belong to that or any other union to take advantage of services, Coulter emphasized. The program began in Burlingame in 1986, and focused on employment services for adults with disabilities in general. The Life Program was started to specifically deal with the unique needs of PWAs in 1996. As of December 1997, the Life Program had 165 active clients. Coulter said clients pay no fee for services provided.

HIV-positive candidates who enroll in the Life Program receive many services, including an in-depth individual orientation and career counseling, an intensive session devoted to decision-making and strategizing, customized job search skills training, individual resume preparation, public and private benefits consultation, information on top Bay Area employers, and direct referrals for job interviews. A parallel program is offered to candidates who speak Spanish as their primary language.

Other services include referrals for entrepreneurial small business incubation and internship/mentoring opportunities for on-the-job computer training at some of the Bay Area's most cutting-edge online and multimedia firms. Clients can also choose to access counseling and training programs through the state Department of Rehabilitation. Intakes for state-funded services are provided at the Life Program, said Coulter. ▼

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE
ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy. The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES
Study A455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing 250 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing <250 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg BID. The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range, 10 to 725 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline. 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 35% were asymptomatic. Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

Table 1 -- Incidence of Disease Progression		
	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	14.4%	14.4%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two doses of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program[®]. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the comparative clinical trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients. Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients
Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT.

Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy. Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, E. coli reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vivo* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of chromosome aberrations in mouse fibroblasts (cell concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

* The parallel track program (STUDY A455-019) treated 12,551 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts <300/mm³ who had failed, were intolerant of, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C₅₀) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy
Pregnancy "Category C." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C₅₀) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternebrae, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers
Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, the potential for adverse effects from stavudine nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use

Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients. Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after 14 and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean ± SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 ± 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean ± SD volume of distribution was 18.5 ± 5.1 L/m². The distribution of stavudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged from 0.008 to 0.165 µg/mL, at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean ± SD of 59% ± 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD total clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 ± 94 mL/min/m². The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87 mL/min/m². The percent of the dose excreted unchanged in the urine was 35% after oral administration.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see "WARNINGS" section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Modest elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

Table 2

Peripheral Neuropathy Leading to Dose Modification

	Study A455-019 ZERIT (40 mg BID) (200 mg TID) (n=412)	Parallel Track Program ZERIT (40 mg BID) (20 mg BID) (n=5905)	Parallel Track Program ZERIT (40 mg BID) (20 mg BID) (n=5879)
Peripheral Neuropathy			
Grade 1-2	3	20	17
Grade 3-4	2	1	2
Total	13	4	24

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Table 3

Selected Clinical Adverse Events in the Phase 3 Controlled Clinical Trials*

Adverse Events	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	Study A455-019 [†] zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	51	51
Diarrhea	50	43
Darth	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	36
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	9	8

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.

† Includes all clinical complaints.

Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4

Controlled Clinical Trials: Incidence of Adult Laboratory Abnormalities*

Lab Tests (units)	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (≤5.0 x ULN) [†]	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (≤5.0 x ULN) [†]	13	11
Bilirubin (≤5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (<8.0 g/dL)	3	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	3	3
Amylase (>1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.

† Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.

Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
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30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966	30	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967	40	0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water (NDC No. 0003-1968-01).

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Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C).

ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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PWAs on Medicare to get extra Social Security, medical bill help

by Thomas P. McCormack

Newly-announced 1998 income eligibility levels can mean an extra \$43.80 monthly in Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) checks and extra medical benefits for PWAs who've survived the two-year wait for Medicare.

PWAs with SSDI and other income under \$825 monthly will no longer have a Medicare Part B premium deducted. That \$43.80 will be restored to their checks once the Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiary — which goes by the acronym "SLIMB" — and Qualified Individual (I) — or "QI (I)" — programs begin paying it for them.

Those with SSDI and other in-

come under \$690.83 per month will not only get the premium paid for them and have the \$43.80 restored to their SSDI checks — the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program will also pay the \$764 hospital admission deduction and the 20 percent of doctor and outpatient bills that Medicare doesn't cover.

Both SLIMB/QI (I) and QMB are run by state Medicaid programs through local welfare offices — not social security offices — even though they involve federal Medicare benefits. To be eligible for both SLIMB/QI (I) and QMB, one can have assets up to \$4,000, an automobile, and a live-in home of any value. An additional \$1,500 in savings is permitted if it's kept separately from other money and the applicant

plans to use it for burial.

Applications are taken at local welfare offices — not at Social Security branches. Those applying should bring birth certificates, bank account and other asset records, deeds, mortgages, auto registrations, and driver's licenses or other proof of identity and residency. Most importantly, applicants need to show their Medicare cards and the latest letter from Social Security stating what their SSDI benefit total is. (Call 1-800-772-1213 for a new one if you've lost this letter.)

In computing eligibility, it's the total SSDI amount that counts against the \$825 and \$690.83 income levels. SSDI checks only show the net amount — after the \$43.80 has been deducted. So, in computing total income, one must add the \$43.80 Medicare Part B deduction back onto the net SSDI check amount.

Applying for SLIMB or QMB at the welfare office now can bring a \$43.80 increase in total income for those who qualify — and coverage of Medicare deductibles and copayments as well for those who get the more generous QMB coverage.

Medicare for workers

SSDI beneficiaries who are back to work, or thinking about it, should know they can keep their Medicare even if they return to work — and they should do so, even if they secure employer health coverage. (When you have a serious illness, two health insurance policies in force beat only one, and, besides, Medicare covers some things private coverage doesn't, and it won't lapse — like the employer plan will — if you are laid off or become too sick to work again.)

Medicare coverage is available for a lifetime, even after returning to work, as long as one continues to have the condition which originally qualified one for SSDI.

For those who are working, QMB and SLIMB/QI (I) disregard (that is, don't count) \$65 and half the rest of gross earnings per month, and out-of-pocket medical expenses you pay yourself, before comparing your net, countable income to their eligibility levels. This means that someone who has given up SSDI to resume work can have gross monthly earnings of \$1,896.26 or more and still get SLIMB/QI (I) to pay his \$43.80 premium. And to get QMB to pay the premium and also deductibles and copayments, one can have total monthly wages of \$1,426.66 or more.

And, after 42 months back at work, Medicare Part A starts charging a premium too (either \$170 or \$309 monthly, depending on how long you paid payroll taxes before you became disabled). But those with gross monthly earnings under \$2,768.34 or more can have the welfare office's Qualified Disabled Working Individual (QDWI) program pay their Part A premiums. ▼

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Getting drugs and other items not covered by Medicare, QMB or SLIMB/QI (I)

Medicare, QMB, or SLIMB/QI (I) won't help with prescription drugs or care outside the Medicare benefit package. Medicaid does so — for those who are eligible. Those applying for QMB or SLIMB/QI (I) at welfare offices in California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Florida, Maine, New Jersey, and Rhode Island should remember that Medicaid levels there are as high as — or almost as high as — the QMB levels. So it would pay to ask for "full" Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) as well while applying for QMB or SLIMB/QI (I).

Those who can't qualify for Medicaid might be eligible for their state's AIDS Drug Assistance (ADAP) program, which has much higher income limits. Call (800) 432-AIDS to find out how to contact the state's ADAP program.

For those not covered by any of these programs, the AIDS Treatment Data Network (800-734-7104) has a list of free AIDS drug programs run by distributors; the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (202-835-3400), and the Senate Aging Committee (202-224-5364) have lists of free programs for all kinds of drugs run by the industry, and patients' doctors can order free prescriptions for those who have no other way to pay. ▼

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OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization—and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Michael Stephan Andruszewski

July 11, 1957 – Jan. 23, 1998



Michael Stephan Andruszewski, born in Jackson, Mich., passed into heaven in the early morning hours of January 23. Surrounded by two of his brothers, friends, and in the thoughts of his

loving family in Michigan, Michael passed away in the arms of his ever-loving husband, Erich. He will be truly missed by his husband, his family and friends in the U.S.A., but also by friends and family in Germany.

After working for a publishing company in San Francisco and meeting Erich, Michael moved with Erich to Germany for some years, where the two enjoyed a lot of traveling by virtue of working in the airline industry. A man of many talents, he devoted himself not only to his husband but also to his music. As a teen-ager, he played the church organ in his home town and explored the world of music by making his own on his piano at home.

Michael truly touched a lot of people's hearts not only by being so strong and brave in dealing with AIDS but also by simply being the person he was to all of us. To the world, he surely was an angel on earth. He will always be that for me. Love, Erich

Terry Brooks

July 20, 1949 – March 6, 1998



One of the San Francisco Gay Softball League's oldest active members passed away on March 6 due to complications from open heart surgery.

Terry Brooks was born and raised in Gadsden, Ala. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1972 to 1974.

Terry came to San Francisco in 1977 and worked as a computer operator for Bank of America before taking a job with Southern Pacific Railroad. He had been "retired" for the last 10 years due to a combination of HIV problems and kidney dialysis treatments.

In spite of his health problems, Terry remained active in the SF Gay Softball League, one of his true loves. He joined the league in 1978, playing for Alfie's, and in later years played for the 527 Club and several others. But his

longest stay was with the Pendulum Pirates. He was on their 1982 World Series Championship team and was with them when they won the Cascade Cup in 1984. He also played softball in the 1986 Gay Games II and 1990 Gay Games III.

Private services were held at Terry's home in Gadsden. A San Francisco celebration of Terry will be held at the Pendulum on Saturday, April 11, at 2 p.m. For more information, contact Jack at (415) 861-7749 or Rick at (415) 550-7966.

James C. Summers

June 5, 1946 – Feb. 28, 1998



Jim's friends knew him as a gentle giant with an ample portion of leprechaun in his soul. His dedication and abilities in art, theatre and music stand out as the purest joy and love beaming from his heart. He was, above all, a true showman, who deeply believed that "the show must go on." Somehow, it will go on, despite the loss of his enthusiasm, his smile, his talent, his laughter.

A "Celebration of Jim Potluck" will be held Wednesday, April 1, at 6:30 p.m. at KQED studios in San Francisco. Please call John Carr at (415) 621-5126 if you wish to attend.

Douglas C. Gilchrist

March 10, 1998



Douglas C. Gilchrist was taken away from us during the early morning hours of March 10. A native of Chico, Calif., he was only 38.

Knowing the pain of loneliness, the Master saw fit to loan me Douglas in June 1981. That same month we left San Francisco, looking for a better life in Southern California. After a disastrous experience there, we came back to San Francisco, the city we never should have left, three years later.

This time around it seemed like San Francisco and its people not only welcomed us back but also gave us the opportunity to get on our feet. However, we had to do the foot work, but we made it work for us. Doug was happy; I could see it in his eyes.

On the morning of March 10, I was very angry for God had decided to renege on the loan and pick the most beautiful flower I have ever known. He knew it was time, and he wanted to save Douglas the suffering that was yet to come.

A special thanks to Ward 86's Dr. Jill Legg for all her help. Conrad also wants to thank Douglas' many friends for being so generous and kind while he was with us.

Jon M. Gilreath

Jon M. Gilreath, who worked as an executive at both California Public Radio and Pacific Bell, died at his home in San Francisco shortly before Christmas of AIDS-related complications. He was 46.

Born in San Francisco, Jon was raised in Florida, where he attended Florida State University. He was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Michigan State

University in 1972. He later earned an M.B.A. degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

Before receiving his master's degree, Jon worked at the P.S., Cabaret and the Midnight Sun. In 1980, he became business manager of California Public Radio in San Francisco, where he was credited with professionalizing the statewide news service. In 1983, he was hired by Pacific Bell to assist in supervising computer training operations.

Jon is remembered by his friends for his intelligence, quick wit, humor, fair-mindedness and extraordinary energy. He will be greatly missed. A dinner to honor Jon's memory will take place in San Francisco on Saturday, March 21, at 7 p.m. Those interested in attending should contact Gary McDowell at (415) 641-8405.

Douglas A. Smith

April 5, 1947 – Jan. 31, 1998



Douglas A. Smith passed away Saturday, Jan. 31, at Ralph K. Davies Medical Center after fighting a long battle with complications due to AIDS. He was 50.

The son of Gladys Smith and the late Emilek J. Smith, Doug grew up in Monson, Mass. He graduated from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., and received his master's from New York University in NYC.

Doug was a director for the Social Security Administration, first working in Boston and Denver, before transferring to San Francisco in 1979. He retired in 1994 after working 24 years for the federal government.

Doug is survived by his mother, Gladys Smith of St. Paul, Neb.; his beloved dog, Rita; his koala bear, Wally; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A celebration of life is planned for Doug at his home. Please call Calvin Sharp at (415) 863-5195 or Doug's cousin Elaine Macht at (415) 826-9473 for details. Donations in Doug Smith's name may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 401 Van Ness Ave., SE, CA 94102.

Steven H. Vralsted

Dec. 10, 1956 – March 7, 1998



Our Steven took his flight to spirit suddenly, leaving behind his mother, Betsy; sisters, Toni and Cecilia; nieces, Shae, Morgan and Jamie; nephews, Ryan and Lyle; brother-in-law, Lupe; special friend, Karlos; and many beloved friends.

Born in Oklahoma, Steven was raised in California and adopted San Francisco as his home while in his early twenties. He was known for his dazzling smile, and will be lovingly remembered by all who knew him as a sensitive, joyful, humorous individual, with an immeasurable depth of love for life and people.

Steven, you will never be replaced in our hearts. We release you to continue your spiritual journey, knowing that life is eternal, love is forever, and we'll meet again.

A memorial celebration of Steven's life will be held Saturday, March 21, 1 p.m., at the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, 1901 Franklin at Clay Street, in San Francisco.

Speed use among queer men to be topic of forum at dance club

by Mark Mardon

A community forum on speed use among gay and bisexual men will be held next Thursday, March 26, from 7-9:30 p.m. at 1015 Folsom Street.

Sponsored by the Stop AIDS Project and Q Action, the forum will focus on reasons why crystal methamphetamines, or "Crissy," is so popular among gay and bisexual men, especially those ac-

tive in the club scene.

Among the questions to be asked at the forum are: "How does crystal meth affect our minds and bodies?" "Does it change the way we have sex?" "Does it increase our risks for HIV?" and "What is it doing to people around us?"

Participants in the discussion will include both current and former speed users, as well as experts in drug and addiction issues. Topics will include the results of street surveys about speed use, as

well as "the buzz" about speed on the Internet.

Those 21 and over who attend the forum will be admitted free to Anthem, a club featuring house music, techno, and other dance music. The club doors open at 10 p.m. ▼

For more information, visit the Stop AIDS website at www.stopaids.org, or call the Stop AIDS Project at (415) 621-7177.

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medications and some HIV related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit

www.agouron.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)



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Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), EpiVir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglut® Cardioquin® Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafegot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- EpiVir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.
- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir® (ritonavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invisase® (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label. The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7 to < 8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1¼	-
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1½	-
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1¾	-
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	-
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2¼	-
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2½	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3¾	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* The oral powder contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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HIV PERSPECTIVE

Anti-retroviral therapy: dark clouds forming on the horizon

by Phillip Alden, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

The advent of Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART) has been a blessing to the HIV/AIDS community for the last 18 months: AIDS deaths dropped almost 50 percent, a figure displayed proudly on the cover of *Time* magazine. Many people, even those with high viral loads and low CD4 counts, didn't progress from HIV-infected to full-blown AIDS. For the first time since the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937, the medicinal use of marijuana has been advocated by the same venerable European and American medical journals that advocated its use from 1840 to 1900. Cancer and AIDS research have been occasional collaborators in the hopes of controlling both diseases. Drug companies have pushed research and human trials beyond normal limits (although the bottom line is more about money than compassion). All in all, it's probably been the most hopeful and optimistic period of time for the HIV/AIDS community since this disease first reared its ugly head.

Almost every American has been affected to one degree or another by the AIDS crisis, and anti-retroviral drugs have changed the way people look at this disease. There has been a price paid for these gains, though. The drugs used to treat HIV are incredibly toxic, a fact often overlooked by the mainstream media. Side effects of HAART Therapy range from mild nausea and headaches to kidney stones and renal failure. People in the full-time workplace while on HAART Therapy are often ill from stomach problems and headaches while trying to juggle their workload, demanding drug-taking schedules, and personal lives.

The drugs take their toll on the mind as well: the general chemistry of HAART patients may contribute to emotional conditions like depression and anxiety, a common side effect of living with

HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. (Fortunately, both old and new ways of treating side effects have greatly helped HAART patients.)

All is not well in the land of HAART therapy, though. In the December 1997-January 1998 issue of the *Gay Men's Health Crisis Treatment Issues* newsletter, the cover article written by journalist Dave Gilden reports that "...18 months of maximally suppressing HIV does not eradicate the virus." The article goes on to report of the increasing incidence of treatment "failure," with viral loads rising above the 50 copies/ml that the newest assay can detect (most people are tested at 5,000 copies/ml in general treatment).

The evidence of eventual HAART Therapy failure has been building for quite some time, although only AIDS activists, the scientific community, and others with their ear to the ground have heard and disseminated the research papers and medical journals about multi-drug failure until recently. This news is disturbing to those who follow HIV/AIDS clinical studies, and frightening for those who have been on multi-drug therapy for the last two years.

The amount of time that an individual has been on multi-drug therapy appears to play a crucial role in treatment failure. An individual who started HAART therapy over two years ago and who had also been on AZT monotherapy before that time, now appears to have a greater chance of drug failure.

More threatening, however, is increasing drug failure leading to clinical disease progression and a patient who is now "cross-resistant" to most of the current AIDS drugs. Most pharmaceutical companies have new compounds that are being pushed into human trials quickly, in a what is a life-and-death race between the mutation

of HIV strains in individuals (and probably in populations) and new ways of blocking viral replication.

The issue becomes more difficult because most of the new drugs coming into human trial are more and more toxic. Many people have been pushed past the normal threshold of drug toxicity already, trading a potential life-threatening condition

10 or 15 years down the road for three to five years of good health now. At the time, it seemed like a fair tradeoff: drug toxicity with good health at the moment. But HAART Therapy is its own unique addiction — the drugs you have to take two or three times a day make a you feel sick and tired instead of pleasantly detached from reality — but the payoff is another day without an opportunistic infection. Another day of "potential" life.

AIDS cases are spreading dramatically worldwide, and progression from HIV to clinical AIDS is on the increase. "Salvage Therapy" is not showing the promise that so many hoped for, but there is good news as well: John James's *AIDS Treatment News*, in an interview with Dr. Steven Deeks, notes that a group of patients who have experienced "virologic fail-

ure" still maintained a better CD4 count and seem to be doing better clinically.

"[P]atients we identified as having failed protease inhibitor treatment still clearly had a sustained CD4 increase," said Deeks, a leading AIDS researcher at San Francisco General Hospital. "Over the 12 to 18 months after we recorded failure, for the vast majority of patients, CD4 decrease or clinical progression did not

occur." (ATN issue 289, February 20, 1998.)

For those HAART patients whose viral load is starting to creep back up, the prospect of maintaining good health for the next couple of years — while waiting for the latest options from the pharmaceutical companies — is a real ray of hope in a somewhat cloudy horizon.

Last year's magazine headlines aside, this epidemic is not over. ▼



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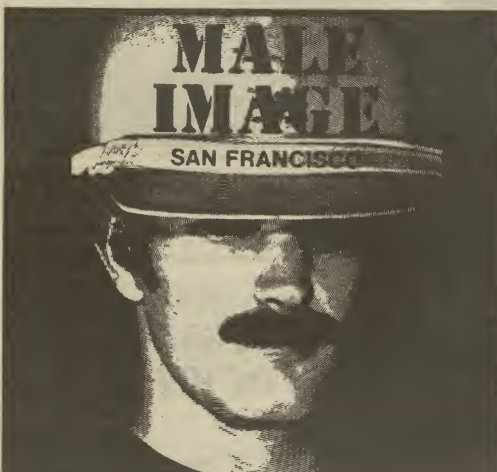
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Tri-ing times

by Jim Provenzano

Many of us love to bike. Others like swimming and running. Try doing them all, one after the other, without passing out.

Up to 400 athletes will compete in Gay Games' Olympic Distance Triathlon, which includes a 1,500-meter swim, a 40-kilometer cycle, and a 10-kilometer run. The Sprint Triathlon will be about half these distances, but still, it's quite a workout.

Bob Young will be competing in Amsterdam this summer. He not only trains as a triathlon athlete, but coaches as well. A kid's coach in gymnastics at the Marin Elite Gymnastics Academy, the 32-year-old Young will unfortunately be leaving the Bay Area soon, but will continue to coach — by phone!

Growing up in Connecticut, Young's early athletic experience was diverse, because his track coach was also a gymnastics coach. "He wanted to keep him in training year-round. I enjoyed it because it kept me flexible and strong, but my love is running and swimming."

At San Diego State he competed and was very successful in track and field. He also coached swimming for Different Strokes/San Diego. Young's first Gay Games was in Vancouver, where he competed in swimming and track and field. He repeated his track efforts in New York, but despite the raves about '94, he says he "liked Vancouver better. It was easier to get around," compared to New York's metropolis. He also had an Olympic gymnast competing in Florida the same weekend, so his impressions of the Big Apple were diminished.

Obviously, triathletes have to cross train a lot with weights as much as possible. "It's really intense," Young said. "There's a cycle you go through, with diet and exercise. You have to increase distance and mileage." So, of course, he runs, bikes, and swims.

But that's not all. "There's a lot of technical aspects. While swimming, you don't use your legs, but try to save them for the run. In cycling you have to stretch everything out. The way the bike is set up is individual."

Most of the athletes will be shipping their own bikes. "Getting



Fast on his feet: No. 10708 Glen Galang (circled) crosses the finish line in the 1997 Honolulu Marathon.

it there is not a deal," Young said. "But storing it will be a major problem. Amsterdam's a very small city. There are gonna be so many people in Amsterdam. It will be sooooo crowded."

But Young is confident that, although there will be mistakes, the event itself is more important for what it represents.

The biggest upcoming triathlons on the West Coast are the Wild Flower in Santa Rosa and the San Jose International, held once a year. The Alcatraz event is in June. Competitors starts in the famous Alcatraz prison, swim to mainland, then bike.

"I did it three years ago." What was it like? "Well, I'm from the East Coast and went to Southern California. It was very cold! I definitely need a wetsuit. Fighting the current was a big thing." Despite the hardship, he completed the swim in less than 20 minutes.

Mush!

About 25 other folks in the Bay Area are competing at Gay Games in Triathlon. Young is coaching about seven. Among them is Glen Galang, 27, who credits the AIDS Ride with inspiring him to continue into his bike, run, and swim event. "I felt like I was in okay enough shape that I found an event that was local, the San Jose International. I thought I was close enough, and prepared. Before that I was on my bike a lot, but my running and swimming were weak."

Since then he's increased his efforts, but still, "the whole concept of transitioning from one event to the other is weird," he said. "Running from the swim to the bike, my legs felt like mush!"

What is the attraction to such a demanding event? "It seemed like something that no one I knew was into. There was a B.A.R. article mentioning sports where they needed people."

Galang cites the "different individualism to the sport," as an interest. "If I keep doing the same thing I get turned off."

In yet another case of late-blooming jockey, sports were not an element of the young San Franciscan's life. Still, he has few regrets about that. "Bob tells me that if you pick it up at a later age you tend to keep it. But if you're forced to do it at a young age, you lose it."

Galang got started in triathlon when he did the Tri for Real in Pleasanton (a beginner's version is Tri for Fun), and did quite well. "I think the swim tends to turn a lot of people off. When I started swimming a few years ago," says Young, "I couldn't even swim 20 laps. Now I'm still not a fast swimmer, but I have the endurance," which comes in handy when traversing ocean bays.

The athlete to watch, though, will be 50-year-old Kristian Nergaard. Originally from Norway, the San Franciscan (since 1975) has set his goal for no less than gold in his age category.

Having run three New York City marathons, and San Francisco's, as well as the Alcatraz Triathlon, Nergaard stands to be one of the most experienced athletes around. How did he manage to swim in the bay without a wetsuit? "I thank El Niño!"

With so many medals he "hangs them all on a lamp that no longer brings any light." Nergaard also won the Gay Triathlete of the Year 1996 Cable Car Award. He's been competing in triathlons, but has also been a competitive swimmer, runner, and skier.

"I absolutely love being out in San Francisco," he says, and looks forward to seeing old pals from the Norway contingent. "Being a gay athlete in Norway, the terms were mutually exclusive. I would have been expelled from any sports team." ▼

For more info about triathlon, call Bob Young at (415) 642-1375.

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Send health resource listings to:

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ACT UP/Golden Gate

Self-empowerment for AIDS treatment options. Gen'l migs. Tues, 7:30pm; treatment issues every other Thurs, 7:30pm. 592 Castro. 252-9200.

Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

ADD Support Group

Informal support group for gays and lesbians with Attention Deficit Disorder. Call Chuck. 282-7983.

AIDS Benefits Counselors

Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group

For those who have lost their partner to AIDS. Thursdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

Alternative Family Project

"We Are Family," on-going support group for gay men. Tues. & Thurs., 7pm. Call for no-fee intake. 948-9000.

Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. On-going support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Buddhist AIDS Project

Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Catholic Charities

Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

Community United Against Violence

Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Crystal Meth Anonymous

Meetings every: Wed, 8pm at 18th St. Services Mtg. Place (15th & Market). Sat., 9pm, and Sun., 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

Gay Dads

Gather to talk about your kids, lovers, ex's, etc. Joel Wechsler, MFCC. Alternative Family Project. 436-9000.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service

Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay Male Nudists

Potluck dinners monthly, after-hours parties, movie nights. Box 14175, SF 94114. 974-9446.

G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic

Confidential, free, client-centered HIV testing, provided conveniently in the evening at an accessible location. Test results are not kept on file. 487-5632.

Healing Alternatives Foundation

Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products, open Tues.-Sat. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. 1853 Market St.

HIV Group

Weekly group for men with HIV/AIDS. Sixteen Wed. afternoons from 1-2:30pm. Free to SF residents. Center for Special Programs, 1700 Jackson. 292-1534.

HIV Negative Support Group

For gay and bisexual men offered by AIDS Health Project; free drop-in, time-limited and ongoing support groups. Info: 476-3902.

HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group

Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group

Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Sitting Group

Meditation for those with HIV, caregivers, friends. Tues., Thurs., Fri., 10:30am (beginners: 10:20am). Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. Info: 863-2507.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Lesbian Social Group

For lesbians and bisexual women in Tri-Cities/S.O. Alameda Co. Thurs., 7pm at The Edge, 39160 State, Fremont. 790-2887.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center

Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

Meditation Sessions

For caregivers, people with HIV, significant others, free. Tues., Thurs., Fri. at 10:15am. Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. 863-2507.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Operates sexual assault hotline for men. Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Mobilization Against AIDS

Seeks volunteers to assist in planning 15th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial. Call 863-4676.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

Planetree Health Resource Center

Up-to-date medical info to assist in making informed health choices. Extensive consumer health library, current medical lit. clippings & health booklets. Also support groups, health information service by mail. 2040 Webster St. 923-3680.

The Positive Center

Free weekly workshops in acupuncture, nutrition, more for Marin CO. residents w/HIV. 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo. 456-8065.

Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Q Action

Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Richmond Senior Central

Seeks volunteers in computer, PR, marketing, senior safety, other fields. Call 752-2815.

Sadhana Brothers

Gay/bi men's Hindu/Yogic fellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed. 647-4388.

SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets Fri. at 6pm, 1874 Market. 1-800-977-HEAL.

Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors, free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 777-3233.

Senior Unlimited Nudes

Naturalists over 40 fighting agism & imagism, gather at Baker Beach. Info: Send SASE to SUN, Box 426937, SF 94142.

Stanford GALA

Gay, lesbian, bisexual alumni/ae club of Stanford Univ. Info: 723-9036.

STD Check-ups

Free testing site given by City Clinic, 2nd Thurs. of each month, 8:30-10:30pm. Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison. 863-4323.

St. Francis Senior Center

Invites seniors to weekly gatherings, Wed. 10am-2pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 621-2635.

Tambayan

Support/social group for queer pinoy and their friends. Every Thurs., 7pm at Filipino Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market St., Suite 325. 703-9880.

Transenders in Transition

Alternative Family Project's on-going support group for transgendered and transsexual folk. Thurs., 7:30pm. 425 Divisadero, Suite 203b. 436-9000.

Transitions

Nonprofit consulting service: guidance, referrals and resources for the dying and their caregivers. Call David Cardenas. 664-6975.

Transcendental Meditation Center

Has scholarships for low income people with HIV. Call Paul Brown at 931-1621.

Transgender Support Group

Multiracial rap group, every first Monday of month, 6:30pm. Call Adela Holiday, Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 864-7278.

UCSF AIDS Health Project

Offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Under One Roof

The Shop for AIDS Relief at 2362 Market seeks volunteers to assist customers and help with catalogue sales. Call Ian at 252-9430.

Volunteer haircutters needed

For HIV patient services at Davies Med. Cntr. Once a month, 3-hr. shift on Mon. Call Barbara at 565-6374.

We Care Bay Area

Provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220213

The following person(s) are doing business as My favorite Orchids 112 Coleridge St. SF., CA 94110. This business is conducted by a individual signed Michel John Rumanowski. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 1-23-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan. 23, 1998
FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220830

The following person(s) are doing business as Fumiki Tansu Warehouse 1000 Bran- nan St., SF., CA 94103. This business is conducted by a individual signed Fumiki Abe. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 20, 1998
FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220755

The following person(s) are doing business as Research Matters 2599 Diamond St. SF., CA 94131. This business is conducted by a individual signed Gary L. Rocchio. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 2-18-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 18, 1998
FEB 26 MAR, 5, 12, 19 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221032

The following person(s) are doing business as Jim's Collectables and Gifts, 500 Wisconsin San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by a individual signed James E. Nally. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-01-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 02, 1998
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220909

The following person(s) are doing business as Aspires of Love, 120 Webster St. #4, SF., CA 94117. This business is conducted by a N/A signed Rod I. Nelson. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on Feb 24, 1998. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb., 24, 1998
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 993025

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Larry Brown, for change of name. The application of Larry Brown has for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Larry Brown has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Hillary Shehova Brown. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested

in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 at on the 30th of March, 1998 at 9:00 am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 18th day of Feb. 18, 1998
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221000

The following person(s) are doing business as Kaiaulu, 53 Landers St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by a individual signed Michael Yamashita. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-01-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb 26, 1998
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221088

The following person(s) are doing business as ZutroWeb Maker, 839 Haight St., # 94117. This business is conducted by a individual signed Dennis Brumm. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 2-16-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb 26, 1998
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221122

The following person(s) are doing business as A Brief Encounter 870 Market St. # 721, S.F., CA 94102. This business is conducted by a individual signed Lyle Lawrence. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-05-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 05, 1998
MARCH, 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221376

The following person(s) are doing business as Ursula & Co. 101 Cambridge St. CA 94134. This business is conducted by a individual signed Geri E. Delacruz. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 3/16/98
MAR19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221372

The following person(s) are doing business as Artisan Landscaping, 77 Ramona Ave. #2 San Francisco CA 94103-2224. This business is conducted by a individual signed Todd E. Menard. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 16, 1998
MAR, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221236

The following person(s) are doing business as Mes Amis 193, 193 Franklin St. SF., CA. 94102. This business is conducted by a individual signed Fumiki Abe. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 10, 1998
MAR, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221235

The following person(s) are doing business as MD Consulting, 13 Seabreeze, CL Pacifica CA 94044. This business is conducted by a individual signed Michael Ian Day. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 03/10/98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 10, 1998
MAR, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221347

The following person(s) are doing business as SF. Festival Committee, 484 17th Ave. SF., CA 94121. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ye Wu. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 03/13/98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 13, 1998
MAR, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221214

The following person(s) are doing business as Bay City Tax Service, 3015 22nd St., SF., CA 94110. This business is conducted by a individual signed Bernardo E Quijano. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 03/10/98
MAR, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 1998

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 992910

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Madeleine Isabel Smith for change of name. The application of Madeleine Isabel Smith has for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Madeleine Isabel Smith has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Madeleine Isabel Putnam. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 at on the 31st of March, 1998 at 9:00 am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 17th day of Feb. 18, 1998
Feb 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 1998

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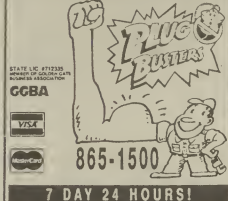
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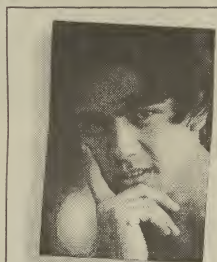
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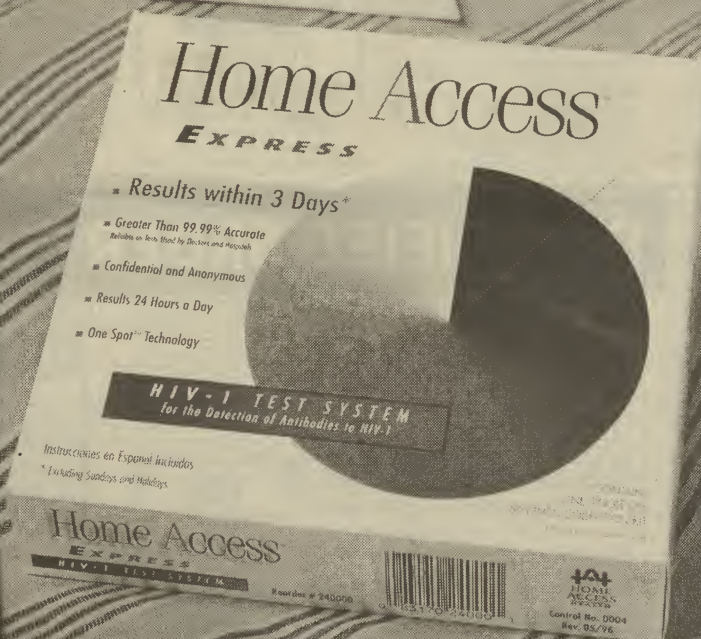
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A diva departs
Stephanie von Buchau
 remembers Leonie Rysanek.
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The age of innocence
Scorsese's 'Mean Streets':
 not so tough after all.
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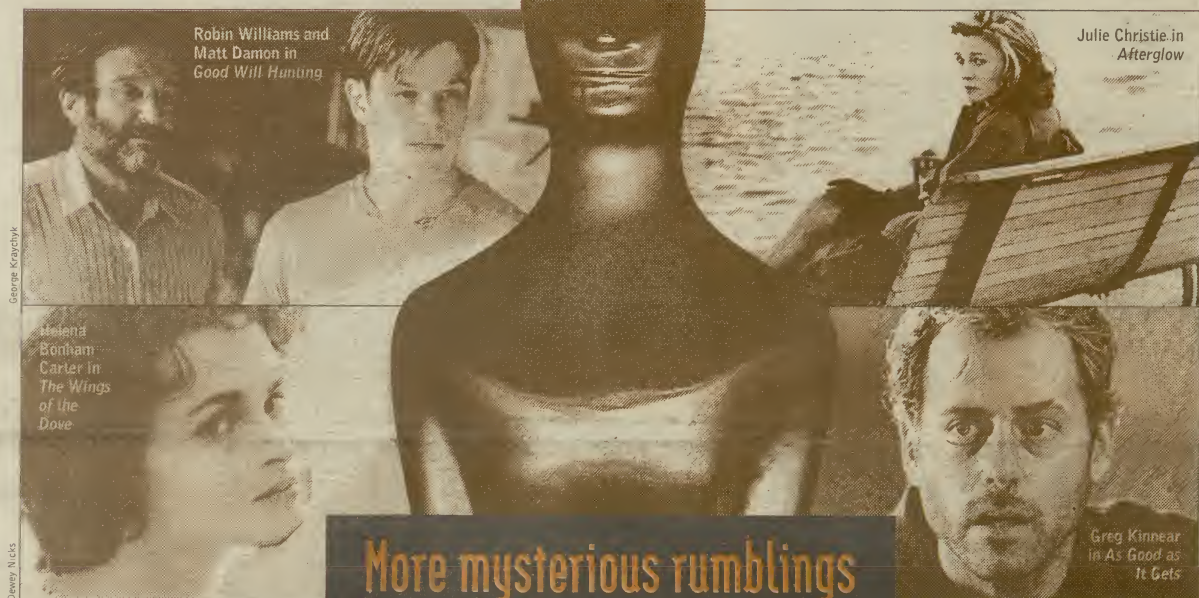
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 12 • 19 March 1998

Reflections in a golden man

by Matthew Kennedy



More mysterious rumblings from the Academy of Dunces

It's as predictable as death, taxes, and face-lifts. When the Academy Award nominations are announced, the film-going world spasms with both delight and outrage. How could they overlook Steven Spielberg and James L. Brooks for Best Director? How did that out-in-left-field British fluff *The Full Monty* score in the major categories? How lovely that sterling veteran Judi Dench gets exposure long denied. As for the March 23 telecast, will La Babs sing that *Titanic* ditty while Celine Dion is on the toilet? Will Kate Winslet or Matt Damon win for Best Nipples? Let us indulge in some snide musings. Three of the Best Picture nominees suffer from the peculiar American disease of Happy Endingitis. *LA Confidential* is great fun and so adroit until that clunker of an ending. The resolution reeks of front-office compromise. The *Good* movies—as in *As It Gets* and *Will Hunting*—ask us to believe that two profoundly disturbed men can find salvation in Helen Hunt and Minnie Driver. Dating, apparently, is the remedy to whatever ails us. Shouldn't we be intellectually and aesthetically offended when these potentially penetrating movies go soft at the all-important climax? Tough movies don't score in the cineplex or in Oscar's heart. The Belgian stunner *La Promise* may be the most uncompromising look yet at father-son relations and social responsibility, and Ang Lee's

exquisite *The Ice Storm* followed a small band of characters suffering profound alienation and crisis. In refusing to tie a bow on the story, *Storm* reached a Chekhovian state of bleak integrity. Both movies were shut out.

The candidates for Best Director are an unpredictable voting bloc. Besides ignoring Spielberg for *Amistad* and Brooks for *As Good as It Gets*, we have the surprise of Atom Egoyan for *The Sweet Hereafter* and Peter Catalano for the nudie flick *The Full Monty*. Gus Van Sant (*Good Will Hunting*) appears to be sprinting from his bold early work (*Mala Noche*, *Drugstore Cowboy*, *My Own Private Idaho*) into the arms of the Hollywood pabulum factory. Curtis Hanson directed the year's sleekest thriller, *LA Confidential*, but who can deny James Cameron and the miraculous profits earned by his *Titanic*, the most expensive movie ever made? Our guess is Cameron will win.

Missed opportunities

And what about the women? Clearly, 1997 was not a banner year for the gals. Kate Winslet was plucky as the great risk-taker in *Titanic*, but her line readings didn't always rise above Cameron's creaky script. Helen Hunt, a monumentally overrated actress, provided exactly two vocal inflections as the downtrodden waitress in *As Good as It Gets*. That eternal enchantress Julie Christie is back big time,

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by Roberto Friedman
and the All-Stars

One thing we've never understood about the Oscars is ... Monday night?! Monday night at 6 p.m.? That is just not an available time for most of us working girls, especially us working girls who have Tuesday deadlines. We've heard the usual rumors that the festivities will move to Sunday next year, but you can move them to Sunday in Siberia for all we care. Oops, we guess our diet pills are wearing off. Burn this.

Our writer **Matthew Kennedy** discusses the mystifying nominations in the major categories in this week's cover story, but we've always been far more interested in the minor categories ... you know, when you've got 6 bazillion people around the world tuned in to the presentation of the award for Best Live Action Animated Short from an Original Script, hanging on every word of a vapid acceptance speech. We've always had an interest in **animated shorts**, but of a very different kind.

The best of all the dunderhead categories is the award for best soundtrack, split since 1995 into best dramatic score and best musical or comedy score, in order to break the hammerlock Disney has had on the award thanks to its **culture-robbing animated spectacles**. Fortunately for all concerned, Disney's entry this year, the cringeworthy *Hercules*, was stiffed, while 20th Century Fox's *Anastasia* was nominated. As cultural commentator **Ty Burr** noted earlier this month in the *New York Times*, "Disney should take note: when even the stodgy academy notices you're driving on retreads, it's time to get new tires."

Burr penned a truly amusing piece on this perennially under-rated category, then let a few hairpins of his true agenda drop in his final paragraph, namely the appeal: "[G]o back and give the **Bee Gees** a retroactive statue for 1977's *Saturday Night Fever*."

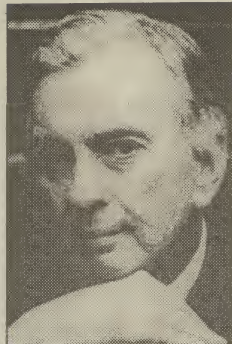
There now, Ty. Sing a few choruses of "Stayin' Alive," take a nice disco nap, and you're bound to feel much better.

Our own favorite soundtrack of the year is automatically disqualified from consideration because it's a compendium of songs from previously released albums — in this case, hits from the bad hair decade, the 70s. *Music from the Motion Picture Soundtrack The Ice Storm* (Velvet) is a worthy tie-in to director **Ang Lee**'s moody study of suburban Connecticut angst. Along with pieces from the original score by **Michael Danna**, the CD includes **Traffic** doing "Light Up Or Leave Me Alone," **Frank Zappa**'s "Dirty Love," "Montego Bay" by **Bobby Bloom**, **Antonio Carlos Jobim**'s "O Grande Amor," and the **Cornelius Brothers & Sister Rose** on "Too Late To Turn Back Now." Sounds like the soundtrack to *our* life!

And that's not all! Act now and you get **Harry Nilsson** doing "Coconut" and **David Bowie** re-doing "I Can't Read" from his **Tin Machine** days. We recommend this CD, guaranteed to drive your boyfriend bananas.

Gored

Two coruscating literary wits, **Gore Vidal** and **Christopher Hitchens**, conversed on-stage in front of a full house at the Berkeley Community Theatre last week, and as you might expect from the outspoken pair, they did not



Gore Vidal

scrip on the acerbic remarks. Vidal on his Tennessee cousin **Al Gore**, with whom he says he maintains a mutual "plausible deniability":

"He's always standing behind **Clinton** at those ceremonies, and I always think he's going to lean forward and bite him on the jugular!"

On **Senator Ted Kennedy**: "He has all the charm of 300 pounds of condemned veal."

On the Clinton sex scandal being "so terrible for children": "I hadn't heard he's a pedophile, too." But for children to hear about oral sex on the radio! "Better oral sex than **Oral Roberts**."

On our two-party political system: "There's really only one party, the Corporate Party, with two right wings, the Democrats



"300 pounds of condemned veal"

and the Republicans, and their motto is, 'Socialism for the rich, and free enterprise for the poor.'"

Hitchens, who exposed the saintly myths about **Mother Teresa** in his book *Missionary Position*, had kind words about right-wing mailing list czar **Gary Bauer**: "He looks so much like a fetus that it almost changed my feelings on the unborn."

The cavalcade of barbs benefited two good causes, KPFA and the Middle East Children's Alliance, with funds going to buy medicine for Iraqi children. Despite all the recent threats of military action, the real war on Iraq is the continuing sanctions, which deny food and medicine to children. What a great way to be a superpower.

National pastimes

Arts reviewers all over New York panned *Shopping and Fucking* — the hit play from Britain whose titles couldn't be printed in the city's finer newspapers and periodicals. With a name like that, ex-San Franciscans **Silvana Nova** and **Daniel Mangin** — each of whom is an aficionado of one of these pastimes (you figure it out: Nova has a double-decker walk-in closet, and Mangin used to review porn for this paper) — just had to check out this gay/bisexual commentary on modern life. Their report: The shopping was metaphorical, the fucking was simulated (poorly), and the play straight out of Drama 101. A stand-in for the devil, dressed in black and carrying a black briefcase, delivers the work's great insight: "Civilization is money ... and money is civilization." Paging **Karl Marx**, paging Karl Marx.

Daily double

A little game show bird told us that *The Lavender Screen* author **Boze Hadleigh** made the cut as a contestant on *Jeopardy!*, for a show to air this Friday night. Out There readers may remember **Pithy Galore**'s trenchant comments on Hadleigh's atrocious book *Sing Out!*, in which, for example, "The Boss" himself, **Bruce Springsteen**'s sexuality is pronounced suspect because he was once spied leaving Tower Records on Sunset Boulevard with a video rental of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. That must mean something, ac-

page 54 ►

Rhodesa Jones
as jazz legend
Alberta Hunter
in **My Castle's Rockin'**
Written by
Larry Parr

Directed by
Adelle Prandini
Musical Director
Rudi Mwonfogzi

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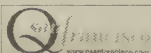
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PERFORMANCE

Dinner and a show

Pithy Galore's favorite drag performer, Varla Jean Merman, returns to Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint for a three-week run beginning this Friday night, March 20. The internationally acclaimed chanteuse and comedienne who claims to be the illegitimate daughter of Ethel Merman and Ernest Borgnine will bring the concept of dinner theatre to the Castro with her show, *The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman*. For the very worst and very first time, Josie's will offer a four-course gourmet meal at 6 p.m. for \$30, which includes preferential theatre seating for the 8 p.m. show. For those adventurous enough to face food and Varla Jean at the same sitting, it sounds like a good deal.

Merman's engagement is for Friday through Sunday nights through April 5. Josie's address is 3583 16th Street at Market. Call for reservations: 861-7933. ▼



THEATRE

Moving hearts

Fifth Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival

by Richard Dodds

An erect penis fashioned from Lucite and sheathed in a condom sits on Hank Tavera's desk. It is one of the tools of his trade, which is to help prevent the transmission of HIV and to counsel those who have contracted the virus. Theater is another of his tools, this one using spoonfuls of sugar to help the messages go down.

"I wanted to integrate my two loves, a love of theater and a passion for doing HIV and AIDS work, and I wanted to bring them together in a cultural context," Tavera said recently in his office at the City Clinic Annex on Mission Street.

The result has been the Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival, which is celebrating its fifth anniversary this year. The five-night event begins March 24 and features nine groups performing at three venues popular in the gay and Latino communities.

There is considerable variety in the offerings. The only parameters, Tavera said, are that the pieces at least briefly deal with AIDS, and that they do so from a Latino perspective. "They weren't easy to find five years ago," he said. "Now there are more, and people are coming up with different forms of expression."

The new selections range from music and comedy to drama and drag. Most of the productions are performed predominantly in English or are bilingual. [See sidebar for schedule.]

The long haul

"Theater is about moving hearts and creating awareness," Tavera said. "It can help people change their attitudes, and it can offer reinforcement that safe sex has to be for the long haul."

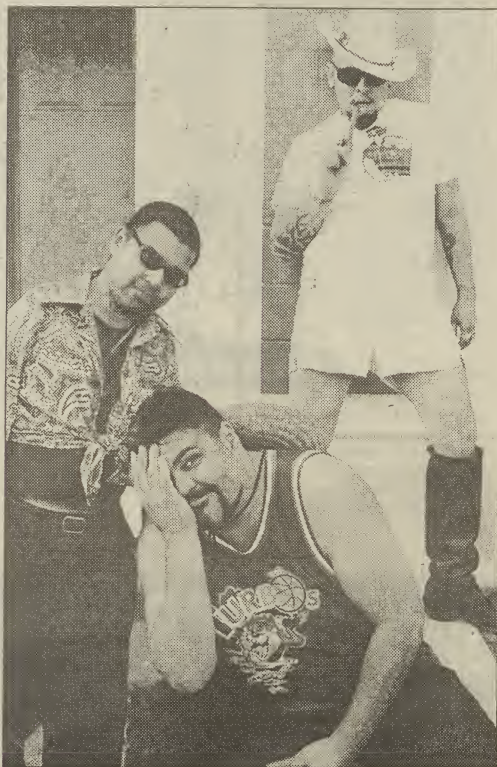
In the Latino community, Tavera said, HIV doesn't always stir the same reactions that it does in other populations. "As gay men, AIDS has dominated our existence in this city. But for people of color, AIDS is not the only thing on their plate."

There is also the fabled Latin machismo to confront. "Machismo gets in the way of education and safe-sex behavior," Tavera said. "To me, machismo equals chauvinism equals sexism. It has not served us well."

Tavera grew up in East Los Angeles, and did what was expected of him. He got married and had two children before he met the man who has been his lover for the past 22 years. In Los Angeles, he was involved in the Chicano theater movement, focusing on such issues as farmworkers' rights. When he moved to San Francisco in 1979, his interest switched to gay and lesbian theater before AIDS became his dominant focus. Along the way, he helped found LLEGO, the Latino lesbian, gay and bisexual organization of California, which is presenting the festival.

"We do it on a shoestring, less than \$1,000," Tavera said. "There are no salaries, not even stipends. All the people power is donated."

How long will the festival continue? "As long as there are pieces to present," Tavera said. "The festival is the only thing like it in the country, and we had to search far and wide to find these pieces." ▼



Latin Hustle performs *Full Frontal Rudity* on Tuesday. See below.

Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival schedule

Tuesday, March 24 at 8:30 p.m.

Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St.

Full Frontal Rudity — Latin Hustle presents sketch comedy with a gay Latino bent.

Wednesday, March 25 at 10:30 p.m.

Esta Noche Disco, 3079 16th St.

We Will Survive! — Alexis Miranda, the Empress of San Francisco, emcees the ninth annual "safe sex show," which mixes messages with performances by popular Latino drag performers.

Thursday, March 26 at 8:30 p.m.

Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St.

Jesus & Friends — Singer-songwriter Jesus includes songs about being HIV-positive in his repertoire.

Drogas, Sexo, SIDA y la Migra — An undocumented gay Latino confronts his American-citizen lover about his unsafe-sex practices, which prompts a threat from the lover to call the INS. This and the following three short pieces are written by Berta Hernandez and presented by Instituto Familiar de la Raza.

Bajo los Puentes — Two homeless Latinos discuss with a transgender health educator the risks of having unprotected sex with other men in exchange for food, money or shelter.

Porque si no ... pues como? — Two women deal with infertility, gonorrhea and HIV.

And Before You Know It — A look at the attitudes of young people toward sex, pregnancy, love, and commitment.

Friday, March 27 at 8:30 p.m.

Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St.

Alma, Corazon y Vida — Juanita Molina's short play looks at love and loss in a butch-fem relationship.

One Less Queen — An old friend confronts a drag queen jailed for murder, in a scene written by Mario Callitain.

Historias de las Familias — Storytelling written and performed by Virginia Vellez.

Pieces of the Quilt — Three short pieces conceived by Sean San José include a look at two cousins who died of AIDS, a tribute to late theater and AIDS activist Rodrigo Reyes, and a stream-of-consciousness look at life in San Francisco from the '60s to the '90s.

Saturday, March 28 at 8:30 p.m.

Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St.

El Baul de las Maravillas (The Marvelous Chest) — Juan Roca's comedy with music looks at four actors in rehearsal for a fundraiser who get to know each other's loves, fears, and frustrations. From the Cara a Cara Latino AIDS Project of Los Angeles.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Creative survivalist

'My Castle's Rockin'

by Deborah Peifer

The two most important things I learned in college were: Everything connects and timing is everything. I was reminded of those truisms when Adele Prandini, Artistic Director of Theatre Rhinoceros, told me of the arrival of the script, *My Castle's Rockin'*, a musical biography of jazz legend Alberta Hunter. It seems that the playwright, Larry Parr, was playing the gay and lesbian version of Trivial Pursuit, and was asked a question about the oldest gay and lesbian theatre in the USA. The answer, of course, was Theatre Rhino.

Parr left the game, called his agent, and suggested the script be

sent to the theatre. At the same time, Prandini was looking for something musical to do. The final connection was Rhodessa Jones (*Big Butt Girls*, *The Medea Project*), who was hoping to start working on cabaret material, and to find a way to be on stage without having to hurl her body through space. Prandini read the script, she told me, and knew immediately that "Rhodessa Jones is the perfect woman to do this show because her own personal presence is so strong. She is a woman of great depth and soul."

Prandini says that "Alberta Hunter's story is the compelling tale of a woman who did it all on her own, who pulled herself out of an impossible situation, who found a way to be herself. This is the story of a woman



Curtain Up!



Rhodessa Jones

who doesn't quit. She was never beaten down, even when she was beaten back."

Hunter had a long-term relationship with Lottie Tyler, Prandini explained. "They moved to Europe together, at the time when many African-American artists were finding artistic freedom in Europe. Hers is a legacy that we, as women and as lesbians, must never forget. We don't want our history to be swept away. Alberta Hunter was an amazing personality with a tremendous life force."

Another such personality, of course, is the glorious Rhodessa Jones. Jones is a visiting scholar at the Getty Research Center in LA, and I had a chance to speak with her about the artistry of Alberta Hunter. I asked how she became interested in this particular script.

"Alberta Hunter is a part of my cultural heritage," Jones said. "She was one of many artists who traveled to Europe, and she worked in the same circle as Josephine Baker. The challenge here is to put over the songs — this music is roots music for me — to sell these songs which are really character pieces."

"The play is a memory play which begins at the end of Hunter's life, as she remembers the great events of her life, including falling in love with a woman. One of her songs, 'The Love I Have For You,' could really be the title of the play. It's about claiming your own life. She's a very strong, independent woman, but the play also peeks into her 'what-ifs.' She was a songwriter, but she was not lauded for this," a typical circumstance when the writer is a woman.

Jones sees herself as a woman who teaches creative survival. Her work at the Getty involves considering "the ways in which the humanities affect art, and how museums and libraries can affect culture. The problem," she explains, "is that Americans see artists as freeloaders, and wonder when we'll get real jobs. I see theatre as the ritual of our daily existence, the place where we are all pulled together to say yes. I say, thank God for theatre."

While we're thanking, maybe we should also mention Rhodessa Jones. *My Castle's Rockin'* runs through April 18. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

Queens, queens, queens

Maybe it's because I did this play in college, but I have a strange affection for Friedrich Schiller's *Mary Stuart*. Oh yes, the

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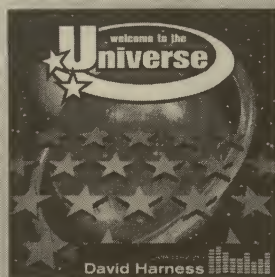


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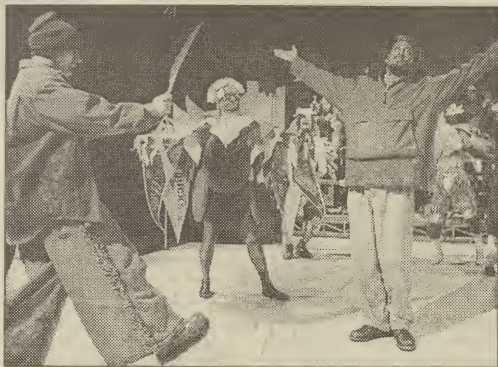
Culture Clash updates Aristophanes

by Jerry Metzker

To my knowledge, Aristophanes' *The Birds* from 414 B.C. contains the first reference to homosexuality in Western theater. It has to do with the availability of young men for sex — not a big reference, but it's there. And to their credit, the three-man Latino theatrical team called Culture Clash (Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas, and Herbert Siguenza) has not only retained the reference in their masterful adaptation currently playing at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, they have added a couple more of their own.

Working with playwright/dramaturge John Glore, Culture Clash has taken the classic farce and updated it to the present by peppering it with colloquial phrases and regional references, decorating it with a pop music score, and imbuing it with their own blend of theatrical anarchy. At the same time, they have retained the spirit and the intent of the original play.

The Birds chronicles the irresistible rise of Foxx (Victor Mack) and Gato (Montoya), a couple of discontented homeboys who flee the unfairness of earthly society in search of a better world. They ascend to the realm of the birds, where Foxx soon convinces the carefree aviators that they are the true rulers of everything, a proposition not quite acceptable to the



Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas, and Victor Mack in *The Birds*.

reigning gods. The birds' rise to power is plagued by a series of entrepreneurs, all played by Culture Clash, eager to gobble up a piece of the pie. These caricatures are constantly popping into the new realm to frustrate Foxx's plan. The inventiveness and breadth of Culture Clash's satire are all-encompassing. No class, age, nationality, or religion is exempted, and even today's most revered icons get thrown into the mix.

Mark Rucker directs the mayhem with style, and keeping this talented and outlandish trio under control cannot be an easy task. As the benevolent dictator, Mack is outstanding. Michael Roth's score is performed by an energetic live band who also play

the Chorus. Shigeru Yaji has designed the most imaginative costumes this side of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. He has created birds out of such materials as badminton birdies, a turkey baster, plush toilet seat covers, plastic pennants, shoe horns, potholders, and athletic supporters — just about everything but the kitchen sink. Aristophanes never had it so good. ▼

The Birds plays Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., through April 25. For ticket information, call (510) 845-4700.



The cast of 2017 at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre.

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre's '2017' Back to the future

by Richard Dodds

In recent years, when the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre has presented musicals, it has usually been to cast a glance to the past. In 1995, it was Langston Hughes' gospel musical *Tambourines to Glory*, a year later it was the black vaudeville tribute *One Mo' Time*, and last year it was the gospel chestnut *Your Arms Too Short To Box With God*. But in 1998, the troupe is using a musical to look to the future.

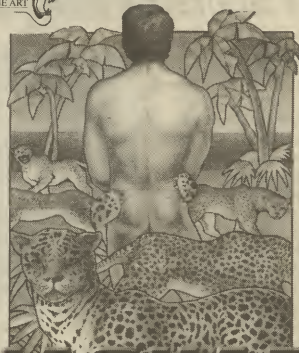
The year is 2017, a time when AIDS has wiped out virtually the entire African-American population. The production, titled *2017*,

shuttles between the present and that future year to illustrate how such a calamity could happen, and it aims to use the music of today to tell its story.

But while *2017* is billed as a "hiphop musical," that designation seems something of a reach. I claim no expertise in the sounds of hiphop, but little of the music has the edgy drive I associate with the form. Most of the music performed by the onstage band is used as background underscoring, and the occasional songs often emerge as pastiches. The opening song is a kind of Schoolhouse Rock ditty in which a schoolteacher sings about the danger of AIDS. Later, when

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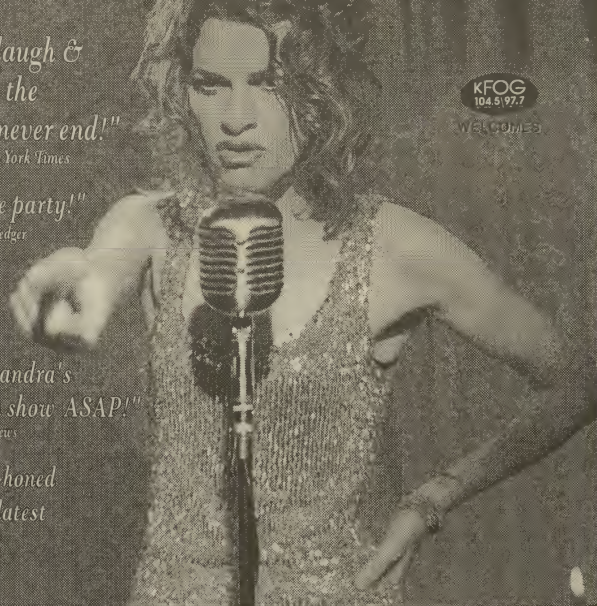
Sandra Bernhard I'm Still Here...damn it!

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Tough guys, tough town

Martin Scorsese's 'Mean Streets'

by Erin Blackwell

The title of Martin Scorsese's first important feature, *Mean Streets* (1973), sounds so ugly, tough, brutal. The way his later *Taxi Driver* was mean, psychopathically so, or *Raging Bull*, professionally. It takes place in New York, and we all know what a mean town that is. And it seems no coincidence that lovable old ruffian Robert De Niro appears in all three films.

Don't let these indicators scare you away from a film which is both aesthetically serious and mindlessly fun.

The Castro and New York City's Film Forum are hosting simultaneous "premiere revival" showings of *Mean Streets* to celebrate the new 35 mm print paid for by Ted Turner, who owns the rights. (Last year, when the San Francisco International Film Festival wanted to show the film, they had to import a print, because all we had stateside was a lousy 16 mm scratch fest.)

Have things really gotten that much rougher since 1973, out on the street or inside the moviehouse? At a distance of 25 years, *Mean Streets* comes across as a light-hearted, albeit testosterone-fueled, romp through the late afternoon sun in downtown Manhattan. Scorsese captures the neighborhood like a New Wave aesthete, filming major macho Method thugs like Cassavetes with a sense of structure. Think urban *Easy Rider*, set against a Catholic carnival backdrop that makes all the thieving and violence seem like so much *Commedia del Arte* horseplay.

Village idiot

Although De Niro gets top billing, his role of Johnny Boy, a kind of Little Italy/West Village idiot, is sheer peripheral riff. Despite the Method acting, De Niro comes across as a fifth Beatle who wandered off the set of *Help!*, with a silly hairdo down over his ears and relentless bluffing. He racks up bad gambling debts, waves a gun around, plays with firecrackers, and gets shot in the last five minutes, but remains bantamweight, never achieving tragic stature.

The Christ spot is reserved for Harvey Keitel, an Italian James Cagney for the 70s, pure focused tension and not much fun. A clean-cut Mafia businessman who takes his relationships to people and Catholicism seriously, he keeps sticking his hand into candle flames as if that would solve something. The film starts with him on his back in a tank-top, a serious hunk of beefcake, mutter-

ing a voice-over about finding redemption in the streets, rather than inside a church. The film ends with him on his knees in the middle of a street, gunshot, bleeding, grimacing for all he's worth, having failed to save Johnny Boy from himself.

In between, there's a lot of primo filmmaking in the Eisensteinian sense of the word "montage." It's all in the editing. Scorsese makes genius use of pop music, amateur night operatics, wobbly handheld camera work, tracking shots, and natural light. He also knows how to exploit the annual San Gennaro Festival: an open air, overcrowded study in the Catholic iconography of New/Old World contradictions, greasy food, and the thin line between public display and private vendettas.

Of course, it helps having something to edit. Scorsese knows how to incite his actors into passionately theatrical performances that leaven the tough-guy realism



Harvey Keitel in Martin Scorsese's *Mean Streets*.

with playful con artistry. (Watch for David "Kung Fu" Carradine in a walk-on Rasputinesque death scene.) A bit of dialogue from a throwaway scene in the neighborhood bar, Volpe, sums up the New York school. A guy says to Keitel, "This is private." Keitel answers back, "Nothing's private." There's an honesty here the cinema has since abandoned.

Given the subsequent careers of Scorsese, Keitel and De Niro,

Mean Streets is obviously required viewing for cinema fetishists. Harder to explain is the film's allure as an innocent, authentic, fragmented, heartfelt, joyous celebration of what it was to be young, male, ethnic, gifted and white in New York in 1973. ▼

Mean Streets plays the Castro Theatre from March 20-26. Call 621-6120.

Curtain Up!

◀ page 40

history is horrendously mangled, but the (apocryphal) showdown between Mary and Elizabeth is powerfully moving, the kind of scenery-chewing scene that any actor loves to do. A.C.T.'s production runs through April 26 at the Geary Theatre, 415 Geary. Director Carey Perloff leads a discussion of the play at an A.C.T. Prologue on March 31, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the theatre. You can pay what you will for a ticket for the April 2 performance, provid-

ing you bring a donation for Project Open Hand of canned tuna in water or cold breakfast cereal. Call 749-2228 for info on other pre- and post-show discussions and to order tickets.

Pocket Opera presents Donizetti's *Lucrezia Borgia* on March 22 at 3 p.m., Temple Emanu-El, 2 Lake Street at Arguello. Call 575-1102 for tickets.

Good eats

Berkeley Repertory Theatre's annual gourmet gala and auction takes place on March 20 at ANA Hotel-San Francisco. The tickets are \$175, the menu gorgeous (I

nearly shorted out my keyboard with drooling). Noted Bay Area writers, including Jon Carroll and Maxine Hong Kingston, will read an original work. The fundraiser benefits the theatre and your stomach. Call (510) 204-8914.

Exit Theatre hosts its annual "Oscar Night at the Fringe" on March 23, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Munchies, a no-host bar, and two big screen TVs offer a chance to hoot and holler at Hollywood's most self-indulgent night. Tickets are \$10 and benefit the 1998 Fringe Festival. The line-up for this year's festival will be announced at the party. For information, call 673-3847.

Boys, boys, boys

The Magic Theatre presents *Shimmer*, John O'Keefe's luminous next page ▶



Ellen Kerrigan and William Gorton in Pocket Opera's production of *Lucrezia Borgia*.

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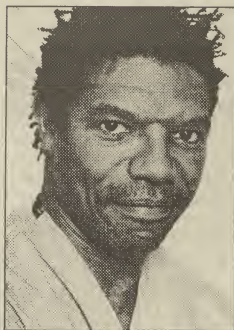
by Victoria A. Brownworth

The El Niño winter of our discontent is at an end. That harbinger of spring, the interim TV season, has descended like pollen on an unsuspecting allergy sufferer. Yes, the new series are in full flower, but the queer bloom is off the network rose.

As *Ellen* twists in the wind of change at ABC, the replacement series, *Two Guys, a Girl and a Pizza*, will have most viewers reaching for the antacid, or reeling from a case of *deja vu*-all-over-again. Every network has a version of this show on their spring lineup. In fact, with few exceptions, this pretty much is the spring lineup. Nearly every "new" series is a variation on *Three's Company*, the sit-com that made Suzanne Sommers a star before she discovered the wonders of Thighmaster. In *Three's Company*, two women share an apartment with a man. Only two decades and one X chromosome later we have a fresh TV idea: two guys and a girl.

In real life, one rarely finds two guys and a "girl" [*sic*] living together or spending every waking moment together sans sex and romance. Yet that's the premise for a host of new shows, like *Pizza, House Rules*, and the incredibly disappointing *Significant Others*. If teasers for S.O. left queer viewers wondering if one of the S.O.s might be queer, the premiere left no doubt. The S.O.s are straight, white, middle-class Gen Xers from the creators of the infinitely more interesting *Party of Five*.

Queers looking for lavender rites of spring won't find anything new on the small screen this season. Nor will they find anything happening with gay characters on established shows. *Chicago Hope* turned out one of their tough-guy docs in November. Vondie Curtis-Hall (Hancock) moved into the intriguing position of playing the only black gay man not in drag on network TV. So where is this character going? In recent months the show has spotlighted the now tiresome straight relationships between other characters, but nothing on this one. Curtis-Hall is a terrific actor, and his character defies stereotyping (which is amaz-



Chicago Hope's Vondie Curtis-Hall

ing given that *Chicago Hope* thrives on stereotypes like the bitchy female surgeon, the wimpy Jewish guy, and so forth). Hancock is tough, strongly black-identified, a feminist, and has ethical conflicts with colleagues. Last season he intervened in the abusive relationship his sister was having with a white man. He got shot by the boyfriend and was nearly killed. It was a bold step to have such an untypical guy come out (Adam Arkin's wimpy character had already imagined some gay involvement with a queer researcher). Give Hancock a storyline.

Problematic but watchable

Another David Kelley production, *The Practice*, a smart, character-driven *Law & Order*-style ensemble vehicle, has been running a problematic but eminently watchable gay storyline for the last few weeks. Last season John Larquette (*Night Court*) played a gay murderer who got away with killing his lover; now he's killed his current lover. Larquette is delivering an Emmy-level Kevin Spacey-esque performance as he chews the scenery. Smarmy but wonderful. Well worth watching, *The Practice* co-stars Camryn Manheim, one of the only fat women on TV who plays a real woman instead of a ludicrous caricature à la *The Drew Carey Show*.

This queer story features yet another gay serial killer, but *The Practice* contextualizes the murders, making them a result of the character's ego problems, not sexuality.



Rick Williams of Lamplighters Music Theatre

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Curtain Up!

◀ previous page

nous story of friendship between two adolescent boys, March 25-April 26 at Fort Mason. Call 441-3687 for info. *Esther's Boys*, a new work by AIRspace artist-in-residence (and local activist/writer) Tommi Avicolli Mecca, plays for three performances on March 27, 28 and 29 at the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission at Van Ness. For more info, call 552-6031 or 554-0402. New Conservatory Theatre (25 Van Ness) continues its Pride Season with *My Night with Reg*, a bitchy, funny, sexual merry-go-round, from March 26 through May 16. Call 861-8972.

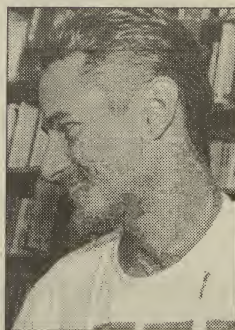
The April 5 matinee of *Beach Blanket Babylon* will be sign language interpreted. Special seats will be held for deaf and hearing-impaired audience members. Call 421-4222 (TTY 800-735-2929) for tickets. Lamplighters opens its 46th season with *A Song to Sing, O!*. Lamplighters Celebrate Gilbert

It's not quite the usual. But judge for yourselves, Mondays on ABC.

Out of his depth

From the Celebrities-should-be-seen-and-not-heard Department: Greg Louganis ended up like the proverbial fish out of water on Bill Maher's *Politically Incorrect* last week. Suffice it to say that on this fast-paced political one-liner fest Louganis was out of his depth. Silent through most of the show, he finally piped up when the topic of politically correct language was raised. Louganis suggested that people should "lighten up" about being called by racial, ethnic or other slurs, and averred that it really didn't matter if people who weren't gay called him a fag.

Wrong. We call this hate



Greg Louganis

speech. Dear Greg: We won't tell you how to do a triple flip off the diving board if you promise not

to talk politics again in public.

Louganis had no sooner gotten his feet firmly stuffed into his mouth when Chastity Bono came out of mourning long enough to commiserate with ABC that *Ellen* was "too gay-specific a show." Guess she forgot that she was on the show, that she was a spokesperson for GLAAD, and that, hello, she is queer.

Maybe GLAAD could hire Louganis next? Or better yet, maybe we could, as a community, wake up to the fact that celebrity status does not a brain trust make. Celebrities are just that. Having Louganis and Bono speak as our political voices is equivalent to having Pamela Lee fill in for Madeleine Albright. I mean they're both straight women, right? ▼

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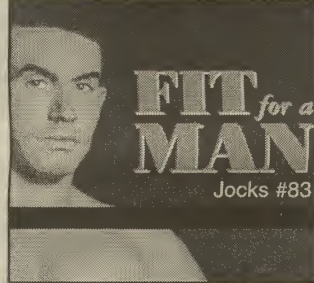
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Palpable energy

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre

by Kyle James

To the delight of Bay Area dance fans, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre returned to the Bay Area for six performances last week at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley of their trademark athletic, poetic dance. Dance fans relished a sparkling palette of dance works that spotlighted the tremendous stylistic

versatility that has become synonymous with the company.

The company is not simply a repository of Ailey's own impressive body of work. It performs pieces from a wide range of American and foreign choreographers. Of the eight ballets performed in Berkeley, six were choreographed by artists other than Ailey. This diversity injects a dynamism and freshness into each performance. The variety of

works is demanding on the dancers, but it showcases their talent and hard work. The works can be challenging, but they always keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

Wednesday night's performance began with Polish Pieces by Dutch choreographer Hans van Manen. The Polish of the title refers to the music of Henryk-Mikolaj Górecki, the Polish contemporary composer whose lush

arrangement accompanied the twelve dancers. Górecki's music seemed to guide the dancers as they arrived on stage: when his strings dipped, the dancers' arms echoed, in perfect unison. The movement was clear, sharp, and meted out in crisp parcels. A certain geometry guided every permutation of the group, and a complex interplay of patterns formed among the twelve. Rows of dancers would shift, move for-

ward, step out, and rejoin the group, changing and rebuilding constantly. The visual delight was heightened even further by the interaction of the impossibly bright colors of the dancers' unitards. The duet was lush and erotic — the dancers' bodies were caught in the fluidity of the sound surrounding them.

ward, step out, and rejoin the group, changing and rebuilding constantly. The visual delight was heightened even further by the interaction of the impossibly bright colors of the dancers' unitards. The duet was lush and erotic — the dancers' bodies were caught in the fluidity of the sound surrounding them.

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ward, step out, and rejoin the group, changing and rebuilding constantly. The visual delight was heightened even further by the interaction of the impossibly bright colors of the dancers' unitards. The duet was lush and erotic — the dancers' bodies were caught in the fluidity of the sound surrounding them.

Blood-red curtain

This tour featured the West Coast premiere of Donald Byrd's "Fin de Siècle," which began with the peals of a gong and a low, threatening rumbling. The gauzy curtain lit by blood-red lights rose to reveal dancer Désirée Vlad in an elegant, gilded gown. She walked to the front and began her flailing, angst-ridden solo. Trapped in the elegant but depraved world that surrounded her, she stripped her gown off, trying to rid herself from some kind of invisible chain. The cacophonous score by Mio Morales reflected her tortured state of mind with its screeching saxophones and heavy percussion. Five men in metallic blue tights flowed onto the stage, surrounding her like flowing water, then disappeared.

The three duets, one by a couple in sky blue costumes, the third by a couple in the dancer's equivalent of formal wear, seemed to be representations of light and darkness. The first couple's dance was full of poetry and purity, while the third couple simmered with sophistication tinged with aggression. A mirror duet for two men in the middle was stylized and tender. Throughout the piece, the five men in blue snaked in and out, almost like a Greek chorus, watching and commenting, but remaining apart from the main action.

Revelations, that most requested of all Ailey pieces, capped Sat-

urday night's show. It is considered a classic, and rightfully so. Choreographed by Ailey in 1960, it retains all the passion and exuberance today he must have poured into it 28 years ago. The curtain opened with the dancers standing in a triangular pattern, bathed in a glorious golden light, surrounded by the mournful strains of a traditional African-American spiritual. The pure beauty of this opening sequence,

Uptempo

The remaining sections brought the tempos up and the hands together, and often mouths opened in awe. Benoit-Swan Pouffer, Jonathan Phelps, and Jeffrey Gerodias left the audiences gasping in delight with their athletic, frenetic display during "Sinner Man." Each had brief solos that had them moving at almost inhuman speeds. Their twirls and dives were executed nearly flawlessly, and the pure energy coming from the stage was palpable.

The final section, aptly called "Move, Members, Move," brought nine women out with fans on a hot, humid, summer afternoon. The perfect unison of waving fans, bobbing straw hats, and joyful noise prepared the audience for the final piece, "Rocka My Soul," a hand-clappin', feet-stompin' revival meeting. There wasn't a still body in the house, and the company returned to do a mini encore, then stayed on the stage for an extended curtain call.

This program showed that the company, under Judith Jamison's direction since Ailey's death, remains true to his spirit. The pieces were fresh, elegant, mostly flawless. The Ailey dancers, as always, exhibited an extraordinary level of athleticism and versatility. Some dancers dazzled, other, newer members merely glowed, and the audience members left impressed. ▼

Against logic

by Dan Blue

Critique of Patriarchal Reason by Arthur Evans, with artwork by Frank Pietronigro; White Crane Press, \$29.95

Many college graduates think their education was a waste of time. While some merely grouse about it, Arthur Evans has taken a more satisfying revenge. In *Critique of Patriarchal Reason*, he demonstrates in loving detail all the ways his professors were wrong. Fortunately, Evans, a former graduate student in philosophy at Columbia, knows the turf at a professional level and can meet academics on their own terms. His demolition is an inside job.

Lesbians and gays should take notice because Evans considers himself a gay activist, and that background shows on every page. He doesn't necessarily speak for our community, but our interests are reflected. If we have to study philosophy, his is the course to take.

He begins by insisting that those who claim a direct pipeline to reality are deluded. All points of view are partial, and no one has the right to impose their views as final. While this cuts the ground from under the usual suspects — religious fundamentalists, imperialists, racists, sexists, and homophobes — Evans sets his sights on bigger game. He claims that the most universally revered and unexamined fundamentalists in our culture are scientists, who reduce reality to that which can be measured, and spurn models offered by women, gays, and indigenous cultures.

Evans can't expect readers to accept this position without a fight. Accordingly, he notes that the scientific claim to authority is historically a construct of Western philosophy. Already in Greece 2,500 years ago, thinkers sought to privilege logic and mathematics and to conceive what the world would be like if number were king. Evans traces this complex history from Parmenides (the first major Greek metaphysician) through Plato and Aristotle all the way to fuzzy logic, reviewing in the process the work of such logicians as Gottfried Leibniz, Gottlob Frege, and Bertrand Russell.

Far from fluids

As he nears the twentieth century and more biographical material becomes available, Evans supplements logical arguments with psychological analysis. We learn things never taught in philosophy class (Frege, for example, was anti-Semitic), and a pattern emerges. Thinkers who feared sex and sensuality in their private lives tended to locate reality in a safe place (like numbers) far removed from slippery body fluids.

This linkage of logic and prudence underwrote both the triumphant work and troubled life of the gay philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein. As Evans explains, Wittgenstein twice set Anglo-American philosophy on its ear, and in radically different ways. In his first work, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, he took the primacy of mathematics and science for granted, and sought to provide inarguable grounds for both. After addressing these issues to his momentary satisfaction, Wittgenstein changed his mind. In the notes and lectures which emerged as his *Philosophical Investigations*,

he proposed that neither language nor logic (nor, by implication, science) was final or revelatory in ways philosophers supposed.

Evans presents Wittgenstein's arguments respectfully, but he also observes that his shift in philosophy coincided with a more relaxed attitude toward sex. In his youth, for example, Wittgenstein was drawn to the misogynistic theories of the self-hating intellectual Otto Weininger.

Weininger (who was gay himself) argued that everyone is bisexual, but that manly men (the best kind) proved their superiority by devotion to logic. Evans suggests that young Ludwig was horrified by his own deviations and composed the *Tractatus* to demonstrate his manhood.

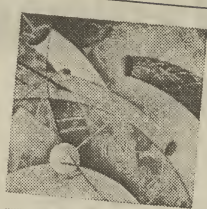
Kinder, gentler

In middle age, by contrast, the Viennese philosopher somewhat came to terms with his sexuality. He even had a couple of lovers,

and this kinder, gentler Wittgenstein composed the more tentative and exploratory *Investigations*.

If Wittgenstein mellowed as the years drew on, the same cannot be said for Evans, who sometimes sounds as harsh and intolerant as the thinkers he deplores. Also, like the very Anglo-American philosophers he attacks, he wholly ignores developments on the continent. Post-Kantian idealism, phenomenology, existential-

page 47 ►



critique of patriarchal reason
by arthur evans
with artwork by frank pietronigro

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Secret on stage



Ultima Vez, the dance company of Belgian choreographer, director, and filmmaker Wim Vandekeybus, performs *7 for a Secret Never to be Told* in the Theater at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St., from March 25 through 29. Tickets are \$15 to \$25. In conjunction with the San Francisco Performances event are screenings of the company's films, *La Mentira* and *Roseland*, on March 23 and 24, in the Screening Room at Center for the Arts. Call 978-ARTS for information and tickets. ▼

Vaginal verities

by Deborah Peifer

The Vagina Monologues by Eve Ensler; Villard, \$12

S ometime during my eighth grade year, the nuns at St. Domitilla (the patron of cemeteries — what a role model) decided that the girls needed to be given "the talk." So on a sunny Saturday, gangs of us 13-year-old girls arrived at school to see a film about "the topic" and learn all about our bodies, which were the temple of God and we could never let anyone touch us or take cold showers during our monthlies or exercise and probably we should just stay home and rest on those days.

We also learned the proper names for "down there." As a consequence, when my mother picked us up, she was treated to our chant: "I have a uterus; you have a uterus; we have two uteri." And Cathy Mosby (Major Mosby, we called her) repeated incessantly: "Vagina. Vah-gine-ah. Vagina. Vagina. Vagina."

My mother couldn't decide who was more depraved — the nuns for teaching us the words or us for repeating them. At our house, we retreated immediately to the "down there" usage, and I learned, along with millions of women, that our bodies were secret, dirty and nasty.

Thirty-plus years later, Eve Ensler wrote and performed *The Vagina Monologues*, and discovered that many newspapers would not carry an ad with "that word" in the title. When she asked why, noting that "vagina is not a pornographic word; it's actually a medical word," the response was immediate and brutal. "It may not be pornographic, but it's dirty. What if our little daughters were to hear it, what would we tell them?" Ensler's response — tell them they have one — was not well-received.

Listening to women

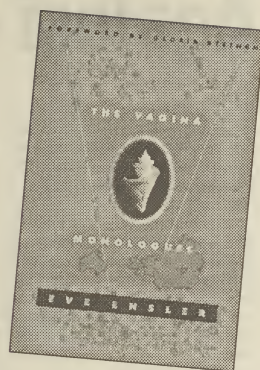
The Vagina Monologues come from Ensler's listening to women and the way we talk, or don't talk, about our bodies. The result is funny, scary, sad and brilliant. Each monologue is introduced with an overview, a fact, a memory or a character who inspired the piece. These introductions are often as powerful as the pieces that follow.

Ensler discusses female genital mutilation and the grotesque attempt to refer to it as female circumcision. She quotes a specialist: "In a man, [an equivalent surgery] would range from amputation of most of the penis, to removal of all the penis, its roots of soft tissue and part of the scrotal skin." All done without anesthesia, of course. Imagine that.

The pieces are not all about loss

or pain. Ensler's exploration of orgasm and women's feelings about that topic is quite moving. Her interview with "the woman who loved to make vaginas happy" is surprisingly, or perhaps, delightfully erotic. I was especially moved by the six-year-old who said proudly, in answer to the question, "What's special about your vagina?" "Somewhere deep inside it I know it has a really smart brain."

The Vagina Monologues are rich with empowerment, with wonder, with rage at the injuries done to women and girls. Ensler gives voice to women of all classes and ages, and lets us see their delight, their pain, their pleasure. Read this book, and gain a sense of your own body and its glories that you may have never felt before. Say it. Vagina. Go ahead. Say it again. ▼



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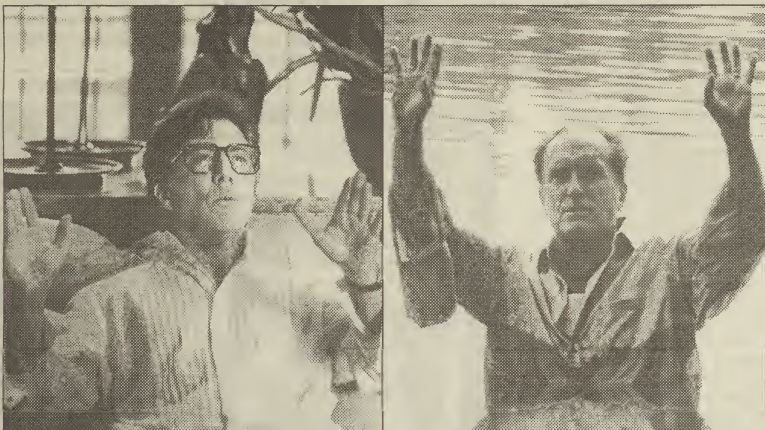
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Dustin Hoffman (*Wag the Dog*) and Robert Duvall (*The Apostle*) both see the light.

Golden man

◀ Arts cover

playing a minor actress haunted by major loss in Alan Rudolph's sad rondo *Afterglow*. Like so many great actresses, Christie has a brilliant, paranormal gift for being funny and sad at the same time. As for Helena Bonham Carter's checkmated schemer in *Wings of the Dove*, was this the year's best performance, or merely her best work to date? Fine as she is, her performance simply doesn't offer the rewards of Christie's wounded lioness or Judi Dench's subtly tender one as Queen Victoria in *Her Majesty Mrs. Brown*.

Best Actor? Tsk, tsk. More missed opportunities. Where is Ian Holm's eviscerated lawyer in *The Sweet Hereafter*? Where are Al Pacino and Johnny Depp in *Donnie Brasco*? Such fine chemistry they had. Mark Wahlberg made an amazing transformation from callow dishwasher to aging porn star in *Boogie Nights*. How about Kevin Kline's finely shaded suburban exile in *The Ice Storm*? They

can all stay home. Instead, we have Jack Nicholson being Jack Nicholson in *As Good As It Gets*, and Dustin Hoffman's wry but hardly award-worthy turn as an unprincipled film producer in *Wag the Dog*. Perennial overactor Robert Duvall is up for his self-financed showcase *The Apostle*, and Peter Fonda does his best as a lachrymic bee-keeper in *Ulee's Gold*. Fonda is proving to be one of those Sally Field-type honorees — gushing at any microphone, and guilty of the most shameless ancestor worship since Natalie Cole exhumed her dad. The veteran Best Actor slate leaves us with the last slot going to Matt Damon as the tortured genius of *Good Will Hunting*. He can certainly come to the party — he has star power and the aching vulnerability of a young Montgomery Clift.

The Best Supporting Actress category is a bevy of first-ever nominees: the first 87-year-old (Gloria Stuart in *Titanic*), the first mannequin (Kim Basinger in *LA Confidential*), the first fag hag (Joan Cusack in *In & Out*), the first named Minnie (as in *Driver*),

and the first to say "come on my tits" (the ever-resourceful Julianne Moore in *Boogie Nights*).

For Best Supporting Actor, couldn't the powers-that-be at the Academy have made room for the great corps from *LA Confidential*? No matter, Burt Reynolds as the veteran pornographer of *Boogie Nights* is most assuredly the winner. Oops. Don't dismiss Robert Forster's surprise nod for *Jackie Brown* (remember Marisa Tomei?), or Anthony Hopkins' scenery mastication in *Amistad*. Greg Kinnear in *As Good As It Gets* is only the latest to essay the monastic gay neighbor, Hollywood's new stock character. The very out non-nominated Rupert Everett was infinitely better at gay neighbor monk in *My Best Friend's Wedding*. Finally, we have Robin Williams' melancholy psychologist in *Good Will Hunting*, a decent performance that cannot entirely erase the lingering stench of *Hook*, *Toys*, *Being Human*, *Jack*, *Flubber*, and *Father's Day*. Stay tuned, the fun and games commence March 23 at 6 p.m. on ABC. ▼

Perils of professionalization

by Helen Vozenilek

Lessons from the Damned: Queers, Whores, and Junkies Respond to AIDS, by Nancy E. Stoller; Routledge, \$17.98

Amid the acrimony between community AIDS activists and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation comes a book showing how very predictable are conflicts such as those between grassroots organizations and foundations. In *Lessons from the Damned: Queers, Whores, and Junkies Respond to AIDS*, author Nancy E. Stoller considers how the communities of the damned — drug-users, prostitutes, people of color, women, gays and lesbians — have struggled against AIDS, and yes, against each other.

Along with exploring the perils of professionalization, Stoller shows numerous examples of the reproduction, however unwittingly, of racism, sexism, and classism within these organizations. Perhaps in part because of their experience as "other," Stoller credits members of grassroots AIDS organizations with "being more sensitive to issues of bias, exclusion, and stereotyping than the typical American."

This replication of oppressive values can be found in the graphics produced by two organizations, Gran Fury Collective of ACT UP/New York and the SF AIDS Foundation, according to Stoller. She argues that ACT UP graphics produced specifically for women and people of color were of inferior quality to the visuals produced for the non-specified general populace, i.e. white and male. Stoller ties this to ACT UP's "vote by feet" rule — those who showed up at the meetings deter-

mined what would get done — which resulted in an inequitable allocation of resources. Stoller writes that the SFAF's use of interracial graphics with homosexual couples but not with heterosexual couples reveals that "[b]eing straight and racially segregated is normalized, while being gay and integrated is seen as deviant and marginal." The fine reproduction of the graphics in the book invites the readers to make their own conclusions.

Sweeping analysis

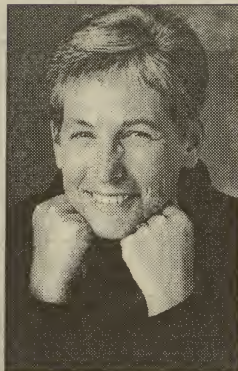
The wide-angle lens Stoller focuses on the AIDS struggle provides a sweeping, if at times sketchy analysis of the decade-and-a-half epidemic. The book's seven chapters include an overview of women's histories of AIDS, the genesis of ACT UP/New York, and Asian-American resistance. The two most interesting chapters are those about the AIDS populations that generally receive less attention: prostitutes and drug-users. Both San Francisco organizations Stoller looks at, California Prostitutes Education Project (CAL-PEP) and Prevention Point, moved from anarchistic, in-the-streets organizations to nonprofit organizations with boards of directors and 501(c)3 forms. Their attendant difficulties with these transitions are explored in *Lessons*, and show how elusive are solutions to organizational growth and sustainability.

Stoller notes the irony that successful AIDS prevention strategies lie in community-based control, one of the first things to go in the mainstreaming process. (How the prostitute-founded and -staffed organization straddled life between the streets and the boardrooms is seen in their name

change: Depending on the audience, they called themselves either the California Prostitute Education Project or the California Prevention Education Project.)

Stoller also looks at the conflict between Prevention Point and many African-American leaders who felt that needle exchange was a genocidal policy against blacks. How the organization, largely white, was able to work in multiracial neighborhoods provides a positive lesson in working across cultural boundaries. Stoller, a professor of community studies and

sociology at UC Santa Cruz, writes not from the armchair, but from experiences working with and around many of these organizations. While the book is filled with enough academese and journal references to keep the footnote fetishists happy, it remains very readable for the rest of us. And we join with the author in hoping that "an explanation of the cultural and organizational sources of the often-present obstacles of racism and sexism will encourage a self-criticism that leads to change, not rigidity." ▼



Author Nancy E. Stoller

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Patriarchal

◀ page 45

ism, and structuralism might never have existed, as far as his survey is concerned. Finally, in an uncharacteristic lapse of precision, he never tells us what he means by "patriarchy."

These flaws are minor in a book of such complexity and scope. Evans is smart and knows his material cold. His summaries are simple, clear, fair (usually), and incisive, and his critiques are apt and thought-provoking. His

arguments do not always convince, but they invariably widen the horizon. As respite, the book contains artwork by Frank Pietronigro. Many of his pieces seem derivative, but they open the windows of an otherwise dense work and give the reader visual relief. The bad news is that the material is still demanding. Books like this usually end on a top shelf along with Proust and other works reserved for old age. Those with a will to read it, however, will find that philosophy, science, and the nature of knowledge will never look the same again. ▼

DANCE

Delta dawn

Sahla Terrant (pictured) is a dancer with the London-based *Blue Delta Dance Company*, which makes its North American debut at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., at performances from Wednesday, March 25 through Sunday, March 29. The company will perform three pieces by Blue Delta Artistic Director Duncan Macfarland, performed with music from the late Middle Ages to the early Renaissance. Tickets are \$10.50 to \$18.50. Call 621-7797. ▼



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Five of the six men in the running for Mr. SFL (l to r): John Caldera, Mark Seeba, Steven Byrd, Stephan Edwards and Glennon Sutter. (Not pictured: Mike Parsons.)

They give me fever

by Mister Marcus

Who, I say, who, will represent San Francisco at the 20th edition of International Mr. Leather in Chicago on Memorial Day Weekend? There are six SF leathermen who will each do their darnedest on March 20 at Club Townsend to convince local judges that he is the one who can shine the brightest as Mr. San Francisco Leather.

Yes, sash fever has been running rampant since Mark Seeba won the Mr. Daddy's Leather contest on Wednesday, Feb. 18. Even Emperor Fred, no slouch himself when it comes to leather, has

joined in the fervor and scheduled an Imperial Brunch on Saturday, March 21, at the new Lupann's (\$20 with seatings at 1100, 1200 and 1330) to honor whoever wins this leather community's highest (male) title.

There was a mad whirl of leather competitions last week at the grass-roots level. There were three - count 'em, three - in a row on Wednesday (Powerhouse), Thursday (Edge) and Friday (Wooden Horse) and over a dozen men with their eyes on the prize.

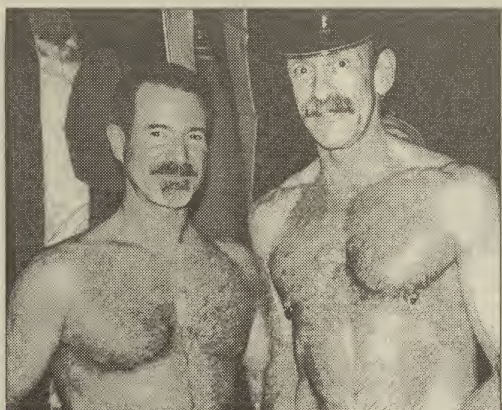
On Wednesday, March 11, the

frenzy started with the Mr. Powerhouse Leather contest. It was 20 years ago at this same site when the then Brig sent David Kloss to compete at the first ever Intl. Mr. Leather competition in Chicago. Since that event, San Francisco has always been a presence in Chicago and brought the title home no less than four times.

Four men stepped up to the plate at the Powerhouse with Gary Virginia doing the honors as emcee. Judges Patrick Batt, Marcus Wonacott, Will Clark and Randy Wright put Stephan Edwards, Mark Frizell, Doug Harrison and Tony White through the usual uproarious paces.

The proceedings were not without a certain amount of humor (after all, only the fanatics take these things seriously!), and Gary Virginia didn't disappoint in that department. The crowd was boisterous but respectful, and when all was said and done, Stephan Edwards took the title, the title vest and the \$250 cash prize. He will represent the Powerhouse at MSFL.

The next night, it was so busy in this village that it was impossible to make the AEF town hall meeting at Charpe's, the Mr. Edge Leather '98 contest and the Mr. June 1999 Bare Chest Contest at the Powerhouse. By then, leather VIPs from other cities were already here, including Mr. D.C. Eagle Wayne Nesbitt, Intl. Mr. Rubber Christoph Lehner, Eduar-



Doug Harrison (seen here with runner-up Ben Greenwell on right) was chosen Mr. June 1999 on the Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, March 12, at the Powerhouse.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 19

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at Daddy's, 2000-2300, \$7. Benefits Rita Rockett Brunches at SF General Hospital.

Friday, March 20

The 20th annual Mr. SF Leather Contest at Club Townsend. Benefits the AEF and LYRIC. Ducats \$20 at Mr. S Leather (main store) and at Auto Erotica (4077A 18th St.) or \$25 at the door. Doors open at 1900; show starts at 2000, with Donna Sachet, T.J. Istvan, Mimi Freed and six wonderful contestants!

Exiles of SF caning workshop by Lady Hilary at the Women's Bldg., 2000-2230. Members \$3; others \$5. Call 487-5170 for details.

Saturday, March 21

Emperor Fred hosts an imperial brunch for the new Mr. SF Leather at Lupann's. Only \$20, with seatings at 1100, 1200 and 1330.

Mr. Texas Leather at the Dallas Eagle, with almost 20 contestants from around the state. In Albuquerque, it's Mr./Ms. New Mexico Leather at The Ranch.

Waterboys beer/soda bust at the Powerhouse, 1900-2200, with a private splashing party afterward. Real Video will raffle off their loops of water parties by SFPD and NYPD perverts - \$2 bottled beer!

Bears of SF beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, \$6. A whole lotta fun!

Sunday, March 22

Well, it's my birthday today, and Daddy-O Philip Turner has insisted on a roast (which will benefit LYRIC and the Oral History Project at the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society). It's also a beer bust. The hatchets start swinging at 1600; the blood bath ends at 1900.

Mr. Alameda County Drummer Greg "Sarge" Park hosts "Lucky in Leather," with a \$5 beer bust from 1600 to 1900 to benefit the AEF.

Emperor Fred hosts an underwear party at The Edge from 2000 until closing, with drink specials in honor of the emperor's new clothes.

Jito Presents throws a tea dance, "Tremor," from 1800 to midnight at 715 Harrison. It'll cost you \$15 at the door. Call 552-5900 for more information.

LEATHER SCENE

do Bettigar of Club Argos, Amsterdam, and Mr. Cell Block Leather '97 Brian-Mark Conover, to name only a few.

I couldn't attend the festivities at the Edge, but "informed" sources told me it was bulging at the seams for the benefit/contest that raised over \$1600 for AIDS Benefits Counselors. Dinner dates with Mike Wieland, Stephan Edwards, Frank Parker and Brian Benemati accounted for \$900 of that amount.

The five Edge aspirants jumped through their respective hoops for judges Don "Ho" Tse, Fred Lewis and Kelly Showers. Donna Sachet and Brian Benemati emceed with their typical easygoing style. It wasn't easy for the judges, but they eventually proclaimed Steven Byrd, an ultra-handsome regular at the Edge, the winner. The crowd was reportedly thrilled with his victory.

Sash rash mania continued unabated on Friday, March 13. The Wooden Horse resembled a very large can of sardines as the second annual Mr. Polk Street Leather contest got under way. Danny Williams managed to inject a lot of levity as the three contestants did the bidding of judges Kevin Angel, Hal Gage and Danny's significant other. Kevin, ever the sex fiend, managed to exchange cock rings with the contestants just to get a glimpse of their "equipment." He even removed and replaced one with his teeth!

Jesus Martinez, the first Mr. Polk Street Leather, was on hand. He gave a very nice stepping-down speech. When the votes were counted, the title, cash prize and vest went to Michael J. Parsons, who'll compete with the other gladiators tomorrow night.

The judges and contestants attended the meet and greet at Daddy's on Saturday night, and the six MSFL hopefuls drew their numbers. Last Sunday afternoon, they appeared at Leticia's upstairs banquet room for the pre-judging interviews. Hope to see all of you Friday night. Watch Mark Seeba, Stephan Edwards, Mike Parsons, Steven Byrd, Glennon Sutter and John Caldera strut their stuff for the judges. Yes, we *do* have a contest — and may the best man win!

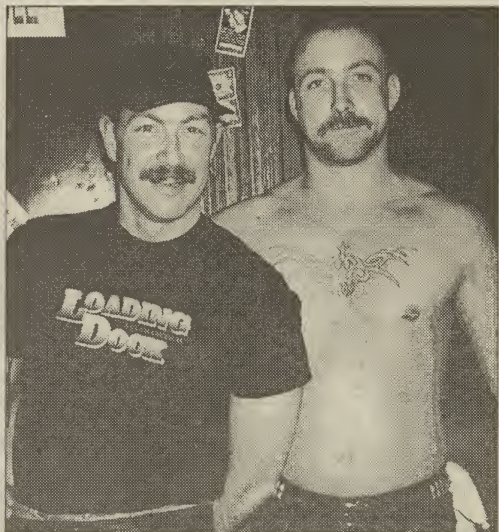
Here come da judge(s)

Last week, Intl. Mr. Leather Inc. in Chicago announced the judges for their 20th anniversary competition. It will be a pleasure to join the panel that also boasts head judge Thom Dombkowski, the first ever Intl. Mr. Leather David Kloss, Wally Wallace of New York City, Eduardo Bettigar, Mikal Bales of Zeus Studios and Mistress Diamond of Vero Beach, Fla. Because of the estimated 70 contestants, 14 hours of pre-judging interviews have been scheduled. And it's worthwhile to note that at least four of the seven IML judges will be in the audience at the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest!

Les dildeaux d'or

You probably don't realize it, but ballots for the Golden Dildeaux Awards are pouring in even as you read this. The nominations opened last Sunday, March 15. You can get a free nomination sheet at either Daddy's or the Eagle until next Wednesday, March 25.

A person must get at least seven nominations to get on the final ballot. The voting begins on Friday, March 27, at Daddy's and the Eagle for a paltry \$1 a ballot and continues through April 8. It's up to you, the public, to bestow such honors as Top of the Year, Prince of Piss, Size Queen, Dick of Death, Miss Cheese Whiz and



Two of the hot bartenders at the "leather, uniform, latex & boots only" Loading Dock, SoMa's newest leather bar.

other hallowed titles upon those you know to be truly worthy. The awards ceremony will take place at the Eagle on Saturday, April 11.

The Golden Gate Guards MC is producing. Get busy, folks, and grab a pencil! I can just hear Andy ("The Jock") Anderson lamenting, "How did I get nominated for the Leap Frog Award?" Har-rumph! Nominate! Vote! It is a fundraiser, you know!

Update on ABW

The American Brotherhood Weekend (April 24-26 in Washington, D.C.), when American Leatherman, American Leatherwoman and American Leatherboy will be chosen, is shaping up. The U.S. Postal Service changed box numbers in Utica, N.Y. The correct address for Able Productions is now P.O. Box 5130, Utica, N.Y. 13505-8130. And yes, Jim Cobb, Roger Fleming and Vern Stewart are the producers.

Last Saturday night at the Cell Block in Chicago, the Onyx Club

held a contest to send a man and a woman to ABW; Vern Stewart was the head judge. The turnout was good. Isadore LeFlor won the Mid-American Leather Man title, and the charming "Mercea" copped the Mid-American Leather Woman title.

Shove me the money!

SMMILE, the folks who bring you the Dore Alley Fair (Sunday, July 26) and the Folsom Street Fair (Sunday, Sept. 27), are in high gear already for two of leather-dom's wildest extravaganzas. You may recall that proceeds from last year's fairs topped \$100,000 and were distributed to various charities.

Well, it's time to make your bid for some of the funds from the 1998 fairs. Yes, they're looking for beneficiaries. Bona-fide charities can obtain a beneficiary application package by contacting SMMILE at 369 12th St., SF, CA 94103. You can also fax (415) 861-2312. ▼

LEATHER ON STAGE

Hurts so good



The Chameleon Theatre Company presents the world premiere of *The Hanged Woman*, a new play by San Francisco lesbian playwright Lee Kiszonas. Set in a leather S&M bar in San Francisco, *The Hanged Woman* explores hurt versus harm, pain versus sensation, and the relationships of six women. *The Hanged Woman* opens tonight, March 19, and runs Thursday through Saturday nights at 8 p.m. through April 11 at the Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy St. Tickets are \$12. Call 648-4121 for reservations. ▼

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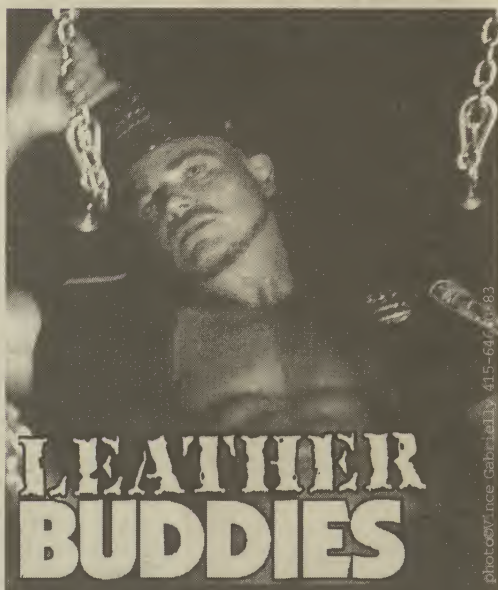


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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Eric M. Rose

Sargent Johnson

Sargent Johnson: *African American Modernist*, now on view at the SFMOMA, is the first major survey of work by this pivotal Bay Area sculptor. Johnson first came to the Bay Area in 1915, where he studied at the California School of Fine Arts (now known as the San Francisco Art Institute) and was active in the local Bohemian artist community. He exhibited his work in the S.F. Art Association Annuals from 1926 to 1939, and had a national audience through traveling exhibitions organized by the Harmon Foundation of New York City. Unfortunately, recognition of the importance of his work has been long overdue, and much of his early work has been lost. The SFMOMA exhibit, with over 60 pieces on display, is sure to bring Johnson back from any obscurity that may have come after his death in 1967.

Although Johnson was heavily influenced by the Harlem-based Negro Renaissance movement, his work is a unique part of San Francisco's heritage. He produced several public art works in the Bay Area, including a mural and a facade at the Maritime Museum and a large frieze at George Washington High School. And, unlike the Harlem artists, Johnson's work reflects the cultural diversity and eclecticism that have always been the hallmark of Bay Area artists. He was especially drawn to the cultural works of Africa, Mexico (particularly the murals of Diego Rivera), and the pre-Columbian civilizations. Toward the end of his career, he moved into the Abstract Expressionism that was in vogue with many San Francisco artists.

Still, his most stunning works are the Renaissance-inspired pieces which explore issues of racial identity in an attempt to liberate African-American images from the caricatures of the previous century. *Forever Free*, which is considered his signature piece, exemplifies these goals with the proud mammy-esque figure whose thick, strong arms protect two hieroglyphic-like children at her skirt, taking a slavery-era stereotype of maternal domesticity and portraying it as a wellspring of womanhood.

Johnson's work was part of the Harlem Renaissance show that just concluded at the Legion of Honor, and would make a nice follow up visit to those who were able to see it. The Legion currently has an exhibit of Central African Art from the Tervuren museum, where one could see masks from Africa of the sort that inspired much of Johnson's work. But even without these complementary shows, *Sargent Johnson: African American Modernist* is a wonderful collection of work from one of the Bay Area's most talented artists. ▼

Sargent Johnson: African American Modernist is showing at the SFMOMA, 151 3rd St., through July 7. 357-4000.



Jan Reeves

Eri

2.5 Minute Ride

Lisa Kron's monologue show. \$16. Wed.-Fri. thru 3/21. Call for times, tonight at 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. G, Ft. Mason Center. 646-0884.

Antigone

The Holy Theatre presents a tribal version of this classic. \$13.50-\$15. thru Sat. Call for times; tonight at 7:30pm. Yugen/Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7797

Bucheon

Recent paintings by Ken Kirsch, Christian Spruell, & Scooter; thru 4/21. Bucheon Gallery, 540 Hayes. 863-2891.

Cheap Thrills/ small bills

LAB's 2nd annual fixed-price art sale, benefit featuring over 140 artists. \$5. 6:30pm tonight, 12pm-5pm Sat.-Sun. The LAB, 2948 16th St. 864-8855

Combat!

An American Melodrama, John Fisher's play on gay men and women in the US military during WWII. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, also 3pm Sat.; thru 4/18. \$21-24. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 621-7797.

Digitally Yours:

Upgrade '98. Karen Hirst and Margery Kreitman's new comedy: lesbians on the web. Fri.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 2pm thru 3/28.

Shimmer

John O'Keefe's luminous story of a friendship between two adolescent boys. 8:30pm Wed.-Sat., 3pm Sun.; thru 4/26. \$15-\$26. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Ft. Mason Center. 441-3687.

The Small P

ZooOperaDance presents a string of surreal, allegorical, dreamscape tableaux. \$5-\$10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

So, I Killed a Few People

Presented by The Annoyance Theatre and Pipedream Productions. Wed.-Sat. thru 3/25. 8:45pm. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

A Song to Sing, O!:

Lamplighters Celebrate Gilbert & Sullivan. Fully-staged production featuring over two dozen songs. \$20. 8pm Fri.-Sat., 2pm Sun. Gershwin Theater, 2350 Turk. 978-2787.

Vanessa Redgrave

Performs her solo show *Planet Without a Visa* in a benefit for Amnesty Int'l. \$20-\$40. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Varla Jean Merman

Stars in *The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman*. \$12-\$14; thru Sun. Call for times, tonight at 8pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Vernal Season

Erotic photography by Van Velsor, Linda Rose, Tim Taylor, more. Fri.-Sat. 2-8pm, Sun. 12-5pm; thru 4/5. Raven Gallery, 2187 Market. 551-7940.

The Widow's Blind Date

Israel Horowitz' dramatic play. \$16-\$18. 8pm Thurs.-Sat., 7pm Sun.; thru 4/18. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Sat

Alice Walker

Delivers key-note address for Amnesty Int'l Human Rights Arts Festival. Free. 9am. Cathedral Hill Hotel, Geary and Van Ness. 291-9233.

British Potters:

Dixon Long Collection. Exhibit of 20th century pottery, incl. Bernard Leach, William Marshall, more; thru 5/31. \$3. SF Craft and Folk Art Mus'm, Bldg. A, Ft. Mason Center. 775-0990.

Fauxgirls

New drag revue from the producers of "En Drag." \$8. 9:30pm & 11pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Full Gallop

Elizabeth Ashley's one-woman show based on memoirs of former *Vogue* editor, Diana Vreeland. Thru 4/9; call for times. Today at 2pm & 8pm. \$20-\$55. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 776-1999

Ikebana Flower Show

Exhibition/demonstration of over 100 Japanese flower arrangements. \$5. 10am-5pm; thru Sun. SF County Fair Bldg., 9th Ave and Lincoln, GG Park. 794-9638.

Medical Marijuana

Free educational program, guest speakers Hazel Rodgers, William Panzer, more. 1pm-4pm. Davies Medical Center, Gazebo Room, Castro and Duboce. 284-6237.

New Century Chamber Orchestra

Featuring music by Argentine composer Alberto Williams. \$24.50. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Queer & Kinky Danger:

Art of San Francisco's Leather/SM/Kink Worlds. Free. Sat.-Sun. 2pm-5pm; thru 5/31. Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, 973 Market, Suite 400. 777-5455.

Saturday Night Gay Comedy

Gay comics Chris Burns, Vicki Shaw, Bridget



New Century Chamber Orchestra whips up some Argentine flavor. See Saturday.



Scary Spice, Scary Spice, Scary Spice, and...uh, Scary Spice. Beach Blanket Babylon. See Wednesday.

Schwartz. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Secret San Francisco

And Harlem of the West: The Fillmore Jazz Archives. Concurrent exhibits examine 50 years of SF nightlife. Free. 12pm-5:30pm, Wed.-Sat.; thru 4/18. SF Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness.

Spring Visual Arts Season

Continues at Yerba Buena Center: installation art by Heidi Kumao; *The Last Judgment*, featuring Russian Socialist Realist School; *Needles and Pins* exhibit by five local artists. \$5. Tues.-Sun. 11am-6pm; thru 5/31 Yerba Buena Center, 701 Mission. 978-2700.

Sun

Bambi Lake Sings

Bambi Lake's Last Waltz, featuring songs of Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, more. \$5. 9pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Children's Half Hour

Friends and staff read books from their Children's section.

Free. 1pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Douglas Powell

Poet reads from Tea. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Hopes and Aspirations

"Decorative Painting of Korea," exhibit thru 5/10. Also *Essence of Style: Chinese Furniture of the Late Ming and Early Qing Dynasties* exhibit, thru 9/6. \$7. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Live Jazz

Free admission. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Phil Borges

Discusses his new photography book *Tibetan Portrait: The Power of Compassion*. Free. 1pm. Ansel Adams Center, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Spirit Awakening

Autobiographical play by Ghanian playwright Akuyee Graham; part of Amnesty Int'l Human Rights Arts Festival. \$15 sliding scale. 7pm. ODC, 3153 17th St. 291-9233.

Tremor

Afternoon tea dance presented by JITO; DJ Mike Duretto. \$15. 6pm-12am. 715 Harri-

son. 552-5900.

Winona LaDuke

Reads from *Last Standing Woman*. 2pm. City Lights, 261 Columbus. 362-8193.

Mgn

EPIC:

A Night Full of Heroes. 18th Annual Academy of Friends Oscar Night Gala. \$125. 5pm. Ft. Mason Center Festival Pavilion. 252-0713.

Gay Comedy Open Mic

MC Suzy Berger, up-and-coming comic talent, performers sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Grease...in the Valley!

10th Annual Napa Valley Academy Awards Benefit; performance by RuPaul. \$58. 5pm. Napa Valley Exposition, 575 3rd St., Napa. (707) 257-8686.

Oscar Night at the Fringe

Benefit for SF Fringe Festival; Academy Awards on two big-screen TVs, snacks, no-host bar. \$10. 5pm-10pm. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

SFMOMA

Fabrications: Bodybuildings, architectural exhibit; thru 4/28. Roy DeCarava, retrospective of works by Harlem photographer; thru 4/14. Steve McQueen: *Four Projected Images* video installation; thru 5/12. \$8. 11am-6pm Fri.-Tues., 11am-9pm Thur. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Sprocket Ensemble

Women in Animation present original music set to contemporary animation. \$10. 7pm & 9pm. Minna Street Gallery, 111 Minna. 681-3189.

Women's Rights

Women's Rights are Human Rights; art exhibit for Amnesty Int'l, incl. Rosalia Mariz, Juana Montoya, Rene Pena, more. Free; thru 3/27.

Academy of Art Gallery, 625 Sutter. 291-9233.

Tues 24

Art Groove

Artist's reception by the Int'l Queer Arts Fund & Deena Davenport: the photography of Autumn Hruby; visuals by Please Louise Productions; music by DJ Chicken; food and drink. 9pm-10:30pm, dancing til 4am. Free. 1015 Folsom.

Darren Waterston

New Works: Paintings & Works on Paper. Tues.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm; thru 4/18. Haines Gallery, 49 Geary, 5th Floor. 397-8114.

Equinox:

Music Inspired by the Cosmos. Jazz musicians perform in multimedia experience. \$10. 8pm. Morrison Planetarium, Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park.

Full Frontal Rudity

Latin Hustle's comedy kicks off the 5th Annual Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival. \$10-\$15. 8:30pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 554-8463.

Gross Indecency:

"The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde," Moisés Kaufman's play. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 4/12. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. \$25-39. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Jeffrey Masson

Author of *When Elephants Weep* and *Dogs Never Lie About Love* interviewed by KQED's David Wright. \$16. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Points of Passing

Art exhibit by the Coalition on Homelessness. 12pm-5pm Tues.-Sat; thru 4/18. Southern Exposure Gallery, 401 Alabama.

Sandra Bernhard

Presents her new one-woman show "I'm Still Here ... Damn it!" \$35-\$38.50. 8pm Tues.-Sat; thru 4/4. Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary. (510) 762-BASS.

Terrain

Paintings by Guy Corriero, Seth Forman, & Judy Mannarino. 11am-5:30pm Tues.-Sat; thru 4/11. Terrain, 165 Jessie, 2nd Floor. 543-0656.

Wed 25

Beach Blanket Babylon

Musical revue extravaganza, now with the Spice Girls! Call for times, ticket prices. Club Fugazi, 678 Beach Blanket

Bambi Lake whoops it up at Kimo's. See Sunday.



Babylon (formerly Green St.). 421-4222.

Blue Delta Dance Co.

London-based troupe's North American debut. \$10.50-\$18.50. 8pm thru Sat., 7pm Sun. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Botanical Studies & Assemblages

Exhibit of botanical watercolors by Wayne Hand and assemblages by Hugh Hunter; thru 4/5. Paxton Gate, 1204 Stevenson St. 255-5955

Courtney Peaters

Snapshots of America, pop-art paintings exhibit. Wed.-Sun; thru 4/5. Call for hours. Lawrence L. Hultberg Gallery, 544 Hayes. 861-8251.

Deborah Cesten

Reads from *Feeding the Body, Nourishing the Soul*. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

My Castle's Rockin'

Rhodesa Jones stars as Jazz legend Alberta Hunter in Larry Parr's one-woman show. \$12-\$22. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/18. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

My Night With Reg

Kevin Elyot's comedy: haunting tales of gay love and desire. \$10-\$20. Wed.-Sat. thru 5/16. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

One-Act Festival

My Place in the Cosmos and *Jesus Christ is Alive and Well and Living in Sweden*, written & performed by MFA stu-

dents at SFSU. \$9. 8pm Thur.-Sat., 2pm Sun.; thru 3/29. Studio Theater, Creative Arts Bldg., SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-2467.

Talking With

Footloose presents 11 female monologues written by Jane Martin. \$8-\$12. 8pm Wed.-Sat., thru 3/28. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

Treasures of African Art

From the Tevuren Museum. 125 treasures from Central Africa. \$7. Tues.-Sun. 9:30am-5pm; thru 4/19. Legion of Honor mus'm, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

We Will Survive!

9th Annual Safe Sex Show starring Alexis Miranda & Friends. \$5. 10:30pm. Esta Noche, 3079 16th St. 554-8436.

Transmission 98

25-foot wide temporary sculpture, part of SFAC's Art in Transit Project. Artists on-site from 10am-5pm; thru 3/27. Free. Justin Herman Plaza, Vaillancourt Fountain. 252-2559.

Yogic Approach to HIV

Beginning of five week course by instructor Jason Heyman. \$42. Wednesdays 6-7:30pm. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores. 824-9600.

Thur 26

The Enduring Spirit

Exhibit by renowned photographer Phil Borges, part of Amnesty Int'l Human Rights

Arts Festival; thru 4/30. Studio Gallery, 654 Mission. 243-8670.

Gay Cuba

Historic documentary on struggles of gays and lesbians in Cuba. \$5. 8pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

The Hanged Woman

New play by lesbian playwright Lee Kiszonas. \$12. 8pm Thurs.-Sat.; thru 4/11. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 648-4121.

James Broughton

Tribute to queer poet by Kevin Killian, Robin White, Mark Thompson, more. Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Landscape

Group exhibit, featuring 13 artists, incl. Martha Armstrong, Gary Denmark, Brad Durham, more. Thru 3/31. Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Latino/a AIDS Theatre Festival

"Jesus & Friends," songs by Jesus; *Four Vignettes* written and directed by Berta Hernandez. \$5. 8:30pm. Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

New Art from L.A.

Exhibitions by Jacqui Den Hartog and Samara Cuaghey. Free. SF Art Institute, Walter/McBean Gallery, 800 Chestnut.

The Winter's Tale

Everyman presents this Shakespeare classic. \$12. 7:30pm Thur.-Sat.; thru 4/11. The Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Xena Night

Watch everyone's favorite Warrior Princess on TV. 8pm every Thursday. The Chat House, 139 8th St. 255-8783.

WANNA SUBMIT?

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Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
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Grilled Fresh Salmon with lemon-dill butter, vegetable & rice or potatoes ... 9.75

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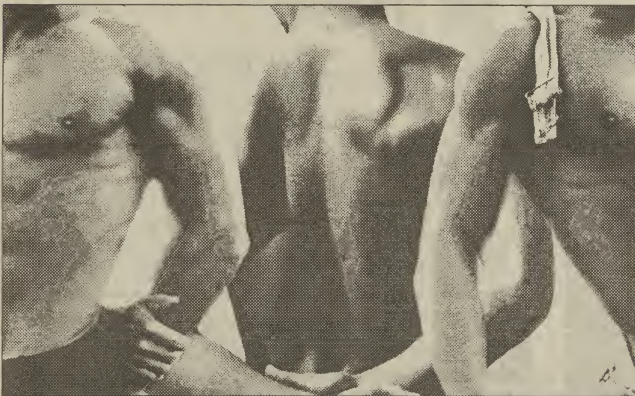
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PARTING GLANCES

Sophisticated Man Martuni's
We both were with friends at the Bar. You, broad shouldered, handsome, professional appearance. Me, green eyes, wily hair, full lips. I came back, missed you. We should chat, no? ☎ 1200

Cory 213 AM Kearny @ Sacto
You: Looking for time and \$15 bus. Me: Eric, tried to help. Should have given you my number. Second chance? ☎ 1201

Smith-Kline Labs 2/9/98
Met you in 490 Post elevator after your blood test. We talked going into Union Square Garage. Were you cruising me? Are you single? Should we meet for coffee? ☎ 1202

Robert Thorley From Merced
Saw you on the Inbound J Church at approximately 7pm one night. Please get in touch. John from Fresno. ☎ 1203

L Muni Mntgry. Thu. 2/5 5:45
You: Tall, black hair, leather jacket, court shoes. Me: 5'11", brown hair, goatee, gold jacket. Too shy to say hi. Coffee? ☎ 1204

Safeway @ 16th & Potrero 2/1
Sunlight @ 5pm, check-out line. You: Tie-dye T-shirt, glasses, cute Me: Shy Latin guy behind you. Pls. call if interested. ☎ 1205

Glen Park Bart
You: Maroon bomber, Me: With friend. You were getting cash, or followed into Bart. Lets meet. ☎ 1206

ISO: Kitty Glamour
Please call again. You have sparked my heart with love... And lust. I thought you might be with a boyfriend & so I didn't think to give my number. I hope you get it now! I think you are very handsome, but didn't say so then! Will be visiting SF soon, call Ross. ☎ 1208

Met @ Yukon Mining
You: In LA in Jan. You were with a friend. You approached me. You said I was attractive. I ate alone. I thought you might be with a boyfriend & so I didn't think to give my number. I hope you get it now! I think you are very handsome, but didn't say so then! Will be visiting SF soon, call Ross. ☎ 1208

Gay Pride, San Diego Dance Boat
You were Bill from SF with red hair and black t-shirt. My friends and I were from Arizona. We had a nice chat but then lost contact. Lets talk again. ☎ 1209

Mon. 2/9, James w/Basset hound
Bernal Heights Park, walking our dogs. You're Asian w/glasses. I'm Caucasian, windbreaker, 2 dogs-left my car lights on. Great talking with you-maybe coffee sometime? ☎ 1300

BlowBuddys and you used t-shirt
2/8, 11pm. I said you were handsome, you said I was too, and I said nah... Later I asked for your name. Can't stop thinking about you Dane! Dinner?? ☎ 1301

Powell St. Station 30Dec 97
You: extra handsome Eurasian, w/tat's, piercings, boots. East end of station, we talked, me: GWM in black, great body, great boots, lick them 4 u? ☎ 1302

D. Riggins, Airline Stew
Was that you driving around SOMA? Are you back in SF? Get in touch. U can do it! ☎ 1303

Castro Station ISO: Kitty G.
I saw you again on 2-7-98. I was with my current boyfriend, couldn't say hello. But it's you I desire. You have my number, Pls. call. 1304

IBR Valentine Sted Puppy
Grrrr! Hot bottom with new nipples from San Diego-I want more! Me: local boy in harness Ind boots - call me! ☎ 1412

In-Bound K At 04:45 11 Feb
U: Handsome, s/p Puerto Rican guy in black corduroy shirt. Me: African guy in leather jacket. We both off at mont. St. Lunch, and then a nap? ☎ 1305

Presidents Day In Castro
4pm. Across Midnight 5/9pm. We passed each other, smiled, looked, stopped, waited. me: GAM, Blk. jacket, with 2 friends. You: GWM, walked back and waited. I should have said hi. ☎ 1400

35 Eureka Presidents Day 3PM
Me: tall, goatee, gray/brown hair, you: tall, balding glasses. Our eyes meet we smiled, you got off at 20th&Eureka, would like to get together with you. Call ☎ 1401

Chris @ Eagle/Hole on Sun. 2-15
You: Incredible green eyes, cowboy hat, leather pants, tattoos. Had fun with you and your friends. I would like to see you and your great smile again. Call me, Robert. ☎ 1402

Gaylife "Manhunt" Heartbreaker
Me: 5'11". You: first truly beautiful man to smile at me in a year! Couldn't stop smiling back then noticed you were already with someone! Was I wrong? ☎ 1404

Teus. 2-23, 7:23am Pts Bay
Point Bart you call caucasian Me African American I got off at Montgomery-to shy to talk. Call me. ☎ 1405

A Sparking Moment In Time
When the new inbound L train left Powell station. You waved as the train left. I should have stayed onboard. 2/19 Call me. Joseph. ☎ 1406

Sun 2/22 @ Wild Card On 17th
You: Black leather jacket, white t, sp hair, blue sf baseball cap w/older friend. Me: black leather jacket, turnleneck, up goatee w/2 friends-exchanged winks-let's talk! ☎ 1407

N If The 3 Orgasms
Steamworks? Feb. 20. I hope you'll forgive me for not coming out to talk with you. Will you give me another chance? ☎ 1408

Alan At Mack Sat 2/21
We shared some fantastic kissing, among other things. Get in touch so we can continue to explore each others bodies. Richard. ☎ 1409

2/21 Fri 11:00 p At Buddies
You: Tall, white, thick mustache, buff, with CHP, chest hair. Me: sorter, Asian, smooth, buff. We had a great time. Love the way we kissed and played. Meet again? ☎ 1410

Windmills-Golden Gate Park
Wed. Feb. 18, 8pm. Your leather jacket, backpack, pierced right nipple, goatee, clipped chest hair, waiting for Latino buddy Let's finish what we started ☎ 1411

D. Riggins, Airline Stew.
Was that you driving in SOMA last month? Are you back? Get in touch. U can do it! ☎ 1413

My Place 2/15 'P' W/HARNES
You sucked my dick, I played with your sexy smooth, firm, ass. I had a great time. I want to stick more than a finger in you. "L" w/Arma T-shirt. ☎ 1414

N Judah Inbound-Wed 2/25 9am
Handsome Asian (Chinese?) in black jacket. You were seated by the window, fixing a mechanical pencil. Can't forget your smile: really like to see you again. ☎ 1500

Michael At Unilab Feb 27
We both wooed, but you couldnt talk. You said my voice was familiar give me a call, Kevin. ☎ 1501

Tower- S. Mc Lachan- 2/26
You asked me where I found the "sufajing" album as I was about to check out. Coffee? Joe. ☎ 1502

Golden Child 2/28
You: GWM, black leather jacket & tie. Me: GAM all in black our eyes meet twice. You said hi, me too shy. Shall we connect soon? ☎ 1503

David J Church Late Fri 27 Feb
You tall long brown/blond hair, me brownish hair blue eyes sat across from you. Long hard night. You got off mid-20s streets. Call when you don't want to be alone. ☎ 1504

Sunday 03/01 Blue Miata
Safeway Market St. 4:30 pm, we were both in express lines, smiled at each other. You turned left on Church St. Would like to meet you. ☎ 1505

Cafe Flore Sunday, March 3rd
You were sitting by the entrance w/brown hair, green shirt, black coat and beautiful eyes. Me shaved head, goatee, retro glasses, couldn't stop staring at you. Please call. ☎ 1506

Chinese Cultural Center Th 1/22
Interested in Chinese culture & more? Lost on elevator then opened door for you. Gentleman in black coat too shy & polite to approach you in public. Please call; leave name ph. ☎ 1507

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Donde Exas?
Ambitious man, 33, seeks a Latino companion, my masculine, para toda la vida. S/o, hard working, H.I.V.-, y des-esperadamente por tu amor. Soy 5'10", 175#, Negro, Plensoen U. ☎ 1210

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 6'2", 185#, 38, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV- extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1211

Are You Broad Minded?
Caribbean gay male looking for guys into liberal politics, affirmative action, music, from salsa to Classic. Good movies and sense of humor. You may be my one. I am 53 y/o and very sensual. ☎ 1212

WM 40sHIV+ Seeks GBMorGWM
Im looking for compatible man for dating, romance, companionship, LTC. Im 6' 175#, affectionate, mostly bottom, enjoy travel, museums, friends, humor, etc. ☎ 1213

ISO Two Hot Latin Lovers
You must be 18-28, 5'8", 9 in. or more, swimmers build, horny. Im GWM, 32, 5'6", 155#, br/hzl, bony. ☎ 1214

High Quality GAM
5'8", 140#, professional, honest and caring. Seeking other quality gay en for movies, theatre, travel, quiet times and possible LTR. ☎ 1215

Boy Holes Frenched
Mindless blow jobs performed. Dark blond hair, perfect body, 5'10", late thirties funloving and real, gentle, honest, passionate, cute. ☎ 1216

Very Handsome All-American GM
6', Athletic/muscular build. 6', 180#, straight acting, good sense of humor, honest HIV-. Seeking good looking, masculine GAM 18-28, nice body and similar characteristics for friendship/Dating. ☎ 1217

HIV+ Eastbay Latin Top Wanted
HIV+ bottom, 35, 6', 185#. Blondish, blue, cutie-pie seeks snuggle buddy, Caticap on Virgo smooch. ☎ 1218

HIV Latin W/boat Wanted
HIV+ bottom, blurb, 6', 185#, 35, seeks divorced sailor with cigar and kids. Eastbay preferred. I live in the Pittsburg/Concord area. ☎ 1219

Man Seeks Manmate
Hello, my name is Ron. I seek a mate who desires to be with and share intimate company with a older guy, LTR. Cautious, particular. No one need apply beyond the age of 26. ☎ 1220

End Of The World.
Wake up. What time is it? Unconventional GBM, seeks GM for love/mate. 38, 6' 177#, slim w/goatee. Love-mate 34ish to 42ish, slim, avg., looks, get ready, early morning love. ☎ 1221

Conscious Contact Heart&Soul
GWM, 48, 6', 190#, Red Irish, grad student. Loving, aware, spiritual, funny. Sks. friends for movies, swimming, steam, mutual massage & new adventures. Bodies are great. Souls are better. Bill W. friends welcome. ☎ 1255

Actual Nice (Mostly) Guy
Who likes music, outdoors, travel, reading, conversation, humor. 6' 170#, 40, br/gm, good shape (42), i.e. I'm prof., grown-up articulate & some say gdlik. Looking for companionship & some gding, complementary guy. ☎ 1222

New to Bay Area/Non scene
In shape GWM, 35, b/blu, seeks GAM for friendship, fun, LTR, possible. No smoker a plus. ☎ 1223

Seeking Buddy
WM, 6' 175#, br/hr, hairy, athletic, at-sugar-daddy. HIV-, 42, bottom seeks younger inexperienced top buddy for encounters. Be honest, caring, discreet, and straight acting. ☎ 1224

Bohemian Aristocrat, 57, 150#
Soulful man who feels fabulously, thinks kindly, tastes tastefully, sees sensibly, and is fragrant free. Non-Anglo preferred. ☎ 1225

Handsome Young Boy Needs Dad
I can find you here in Arizona. Me: Hispanic, 5'7" 130#, bottom, HIV- Great personality. You: 30-45, attractive, financially secure & stable. GWM, looking for LTR. ☎ 1226

Full Of Energy
Packed to the brim with talent, young man seeks gentlemen for secret rendezvous and special times. Into spirituality. ☎ 1227

Are You Bottom Enough???
To handle this top, hairy, tato's man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195#, masculine & muscular, lung 8', passionate, who loves pumping for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40. ☎ 1228

Spread'em On My Face
GWM, 52, ISO 80+ married guy under 40, ISO, You need oral service free of charge. Discreet, HIV-, E. Bay, clean and sweaty. ☎ 1229

ISO Group Sex
ISO young well hung guys to do. I love to be a cumdum. Im 30, 5'6", 150, br/hzl, versatile bottom. ☎ 1230

Hiv+ Seeking Romance/Friendship
Goodlooking GWM, 6', 220#, 35yo, healthy mind and body, workout, cook, travel, love the outdoors. Be honest, sweet and adventurous. Any race. ☎ 1306

Bottom Daddy
Muscular, masculine dad, 6', 190#, 45, seeking dominant dads or sons. Let me wrap my hot lips, tight ass around your hard dick and ride bareback. ☎ 1307

Romantic Asian Lover
Smooth skin, slender, cute brown butt, nice body, medium swimmer build. You: GWM, clean shaven, fit, healthy, oral, Dutch+, no into scene, possible relationship. NS,ND, No rice queens. ☎ 1308

Seeking A Romantic Lover
GAM, Filipino, over 30, height and weight proportionate. Romantic, love to cuddle, kiss and romance. Seeks GWM, with the same quality interests. Must be understanding and relationship oriented. Please call if apply to you. ☎ 1309

Sexy Exotic Asian ISO White
Goodlooking, sexy Asian, 25, 5'10", 150#, ISO white to 35 for dating, possibly LTR. Me: nice, hearty, personality, body. Bisexual welcome. ☎ 1310

I Want You!!!
Wanted: One GWM, bottom, 48-55 yrs, who drinks more than a night sexual healing. Offered: One GWM, top, late 40's, IL, W/inkers/smoker. ISO LTR no beads pls. I'm affectionate and communicate. ☎ 1311

New Years Eve 1999
Would like to have a LTR by then, if not friends will do. I'm Latin, 26, 5'7", 165#, stocky, muscular body student. Seeking Latin or whites under 40. N/S. ☎ 1312

HIV+ Hispanic Seeks BM
GWM, 27 years old, 5'10", 155#, HIV+, bottom, is seeking for a black male, HIV+, top, in SF. ☎ 1313

Gay White Male Seeks Everyone
Who is alive, not dead, any race at all, 18 to middle age, has mind and feelings. Yours truly is 50 y/o & All of above ☎ 1314

Forget HOW BIG (or small)
Your rock hard dick is. All my cocksucking skill concentrates on the important thing: maximizing your load. Try it. We'll like it! Regular service available. ☎ 1315

All Around Nice Guy Seeks Same
Goodlooking guy, 5'8", 150, br/bl, goatee, 43, HIV+ (healthy), n-smoker, loves music (jazz, r/b, country), films, books, working out. Looking for goodlooking, honest, man, 30-45 in the city. ☎ 1471

This Is A Cocksucking Ad
Because I need further fine tuning toward striking gold at next summer olympics. Already so good my clients regularly repeat. Betyou will too! ☎ 1316

Devoted Btm Boy
Seeks worthy top under 40, who enjoys being adored. Latin/Mediterranean and smokers a+. 30 y/o. boy is 5'10", 150#, bnd/blu. Not into humiliation or pain. ☎ 1317

Iconoclastic, Imaginative
Individualistic man sought by professional INGM, 31, for unaffected, pleasant conversation, leading to friendship, maybe more. ☎ 1318

Dad Needs Son For LTR
GWM, 6', 185#, 56, HIV+, brn/blu, moustache, smart, F/P/G/A, seeks GWM, 30s, to early 40s, slim to med. build who likes home life, movies and long walks. ☎ 1319

What's Not To Love?
HIV+ WGM mostly bottom. Into music, food, concerts. I'm 5'10", 140#, honest, articulate, reciprocal, employed, longhair and goatee. If you're still reeking call and we'll talk about you. ☎ 1320

Ready For Ownership?
DaddyMaster: WM, 50's, 6', 170#, fit intelligent, silver fox, stable, successful, urbane. You: slave: lean, smooth or shaven, submissive, obedient, need direction and security. Sane, S/M, B/D, shavings, WS. ☎ 1321

Older Seeking Younger For Real
Middle aged, slim, non-stereotype, at-sugar-daddy. Enjoy kiking, humor, hot sex, warm intimacy, whatever! Seek 20-35, seeking LTR/lover, or fuck-buddy. For equal, loving, mutually-satisfying relationship, preferably open. ☎ 1322

East Bay Men Of Color
Sought by mature GWM to enjoy our romantic sides whether in front of the fire place or in Carmel. Prefer under 40, sensual, kisser, bottom, and 5'9" or shorter, and adventurous ☎ 1323

Seeking Asian Tops!
R U out there? I'm 42yo, 6'2", 195 #, affectionate, healthy HIV+, mostly bottom, GWM who loves to cuddle, kiss and fuck. Seeking LTR/lover, or fuck-buddy. You should be over 25 y/o, smooth, intelligent, masculine and honest. ☎ 1324

Sleepless In Seattle
GWM 39, 6', 240#, attractive, sensitive, sincere, seeks an HIV-, nonsmoking, sincere, stocky or heavy set bottom GM for a monogamous LTR. Would love to move to the Bay Area for the right man. ☎ 1325

Hunky Handsome Loving Package
Top quality GWM wants passionate relationship and possible LTR. I'm 6'2", 190#, 40s, 45's, 15", 33", very muscular, rugged handsome Italian. I'm kind, soulful, loyal, sincere, exclusive, talented, professional, healthy as a horse. HIV+ non progressor. I'm sexually charged from puppy to leathar. Looking for similar 35-45 y.o. GWM, who is grounded, sensitive, successful, secure, who has experienced and wants a grade A relationship, full of mental, emotional exploration with new limits. A man to look for some excitement to restart my interest in my soul. Prefer facial hair. Serious, stable, secure men only. Please call. ☎ 1326

Seeking Mr. Right!
GWM 23, 5'7", 135#, 8" cut, new to SF. Im looking to start a friendship, mor? You be Mexican/Black+, versatile. Willing to meet anybody. Are you ready? I am. ☎ 1415

Wanted: Monogamous Lover
Me: Romantic, responsible thoughtful, witty, secretly shy, 6', 250 #, NS, HIV- attorney, 49. Interests: Animals, ballet, opera, concerts, gym, movies. You: honest, affectionate, gentle, thin, NS, HIV-. ☎ 1416

Big Shoes Big Groves
Former athlete loves all sports; gourmet cook; artist; enjoys museums, dancing out, travel, theatre, movies; sarcastic humor; sentimental; call for dating & maybe more: 6'8", 350#, 40 GWM. ☎ 1417

Alameda GWM Professional
6', 34, 210#, HIV interests: theater, movies, travel, hiking, cooking. Looking for some excitement to restart my interest in gay life from another peculiar (not jock) personality. ☎ 1418

Goodlooking Greek/Latino
27, 6', light body, goatee, looking to date 20-40 or old white body. Films, hiking, hot sex... ☎ 1419

Kiss, Cuddle, Torture?
GWM, 31, 6', 195#, HIV-. Dark hair, hard beard, fur, weight just right. Some times kinky (vers). Seeking similar for ongoing fun. Musts: Kissing, facial fur. Must nots: smoking. ☎ 1420

Fun Musician Writer
Warm-hearted, Irish Italian, 50, 5'11", 190#, young-looking, sporty, seeks decent, fit, versatile, masculine men, 28-49, friendship, LTR. ☎ 1470

Wishing For Dad
GAM, cute, NS, honest, affectionate, seeks GWM, straight acting, loving, Dad 40-60, bearded, goatee, moustache. Enjoy movies, theater, etc. son has lot of things to offer. take care your needs, possible LTR. ☎ 1421

Sunnyvale Looking For The One
Blk. male, 38, 5'8", 175#. Body builder type, nice looking, seeking versatile, affectionate NS,ND, any race, GAM, Asian/Latino +, age 25 to 40 yrs old. ☎ 1422

Pizza, Picasso, and Pecs
I seek a few of my favorite things! GWM, 47, 5'9", 155, HIV-, br/bl. Great body and mind looking for a gallery restaurant, bud buddy. You: 35+, in shape, in love, intrigued, minority a + + +. ☎ 1521

Romantic Professional
GWM, S. Bay, 5'10", 170#, green eyes, brown hair, fit, masculine, ISO younger man 30-40, white, Asian, Hispanic, honest, sincere, for monogamous LTR. ☎ 1523

HIV+ LatinTop ISO Hot Lover WM
Healthy and straight acting, I'm always horny. (2) You: older, masculine, in shape, and looking for someone to spoil. Possible LTR. ☎ 1423

Want To Date:
GWM, 28, 5'9", b/blu, wide variety of interest in and out of bed, mostly bottom. Seeking adventurous top for dating. I am new to Bay Area, emotionally and financially secure. Age, race, open. Please be height/weight proportionate and have the mind set dating with the goal of LTR. ☎ 1423

Goodlooking, Secure GWM
5'7", br/bl, 135. Healthy HIV+. Seeking versatile GWM 35-50, for dating, poss. LTR. No drugs, bullshit. ☎ 1423

I Keep Looking...
For someone older, taller & top. Blue collar & masculine. I am 5'7", 140#, 33yo, sensual, passionate & bright. Do you keep looking too? Need we look anymore? ☎ 1426

Looking For A Son
I never had, for friendship, camping, hiking, by Wm 5'6", 140#, active 60s. Like leather/rubber, "bound" to have fun, LTR desired Asian + +. ☎ 1427

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32 y/o dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, like to go to movies, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel, looking for GWM, 35-45, for friendship or more. Just call. ☎ 1428

Wants to be a Boy 34, 6', 175#
GWM boyishly handsome, professional, dark hair, nice body, intelligent, seeks taller fit top. I enjoy sexual adventures, activism, conversation, fine-dining. Mendocino week-ends by the fire. No one in retail, restaurants, airlines, or hard drugs. ☎ 1508

Adventuresome Masculine GLM?
Handsome professional 37 GWM, honest sincere, ambitious, affectionate and funloving, would like to meet younger masculine GLM with similar qualities. ☎ 1509

Free Spirit
GWM 33, HIV+, 5'10", 175#. Attractive, active, healthy mind, body & spirit: likes hiking, camping, out-dors, movies, music. Looking for Black, Latino, White male, 25-35, attractive, healthy, top, masculine and happy. ☎ 1510

Why are there always lot's more
Would-be cocksuckers than cocks to suck? Search me. I'll just know that to keep clients any cocksucker better be as good as I am. Bet you repeat! ☎ 1511

Frill-Free Cocksucking
Hi. You pull out your hard dick, uncut a plus. I suck it off pronto. Bye. No chit chat. Reg see avail. ☎ 1512

US Olympic Cocksucking team!
Captain Emeritus here. Beaupour D'or. But since actual seeks louder than words, just pull it out/put it up. Bet you'll cum again!! ☎ 1513

Good Catch!
Intelligent GBM 25, very good looking but a little shy, which makes it difficult to find me right. Need to bring me out of my shell. ☎ 1514

R U Cut????
I am not ISO uncut guy for regular sex. Tell me about you. How you like it. ☎ 1515

Let's Get Together
37yr GAM, avid filmgoer, likes dining and travel. Seeking friendship/relationship with GWM ages 35-50 y/o. ☎ 1516

Bright Eyes ISO Asian Lover
If you are a slim cleanshaven GAM, this GWM is hopeful of LTR. Im 6', 185#, br/hale. Affectionate, kind, loving, sincere, patient, honest. ☎ 1517

Big Heart, Big Brain, Big Dick
Seeks same, for playful romance, intense intellectual conversation, and passionate sex. I'm a college teacher, 33, 190#, 6'1", goateed, HIV-. You're 20-40, med-unslim, HIV-. ☎ 1518

GWM Seek Other GWMs
Let's start with dinner which could lead to romance and or romantic life as soulmates. I am 35, 6', 175#. Some say handsome. You may have a positive outlook on life and look cute, a plus. ☎ 1519

Can't Catch Anything In The St
Except a cold. Mediterranean like guy desired by romantic mid-30s Scandinavian like man. Reflecting about ideas, life, arts. HIV-. ☎ 1520

Sex Slave Wanted
GWM, 54, 5'7", 145, masculine top. HIV-. You: HIV-, totally healthy, willing to give over control, under 40, B/D. ☎ 1522

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 6'2", 185#, 38, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV- extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1524

Boys to Men Line
You start a boy and come out a man! We learn each other, fantasies treated, love given/received, multiple sessions all races! ☎ 1525

Are you Bottom Enough???

To handle this top, hairy, latino man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195#, masculine/muscular, hung 8", passionate, w/ love, loves pumping for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40, 1228

Scream On My Face

WM, 52, ISO, Bi or married guy under 40 y/o. You need oral service fore, n, after. Discreet, HIV-, E. Bay, clean and sweaty. 1229

ISO Group Sex

ISO young well hung guys to do. I love to be a condom. IM 30, 5'6", 150#, br/hzl, versatile. 1230

Love It Want It Need It!

WM, 47, 165#, 5'8", masc. submissive bottom, goodlooking, healthy HIV+ ISO regular sex buddies to fuck my hot, tight ass, safe/long. Prefer WM or BM, 35-55, fit, masc., hot. 1231

DOM Older seeks SUB Younger

For unimpaired sex scored. Im early 70's and attr. You are 18-40, submissive and sexy. Daddy-son, master-slave, just good friends scenes explored. 1232

Seeking Fuck Buddys

Goodlooking Italian guy 32, goodshape seeking two young hot guys for three way action. I have br/hr, 5'10", 170#. Clean cut. You are both goodlooking and well hung!! Lets have fun, call... 1233

I Suck Real Cowboys & Aussies

Slim, well hung guys kick back for slow, sensuous blow jobs on priv, bathroom, massage table. Hot mouth, tongue takes ur load. No recip. 1234

Top Man Seeks Hot Young Head

WM, 40s, HIV- very masculine male shape dominant top seeks submissive, HIV- boy under 30 with cum hungry deep throat into older men for long sessions at your SF place. 1235

Wanted Macho Hispanics

Goodlooking GWM, 40, 195, and 6' tall, also HIV+, seeks all Latin studs for good sex. You must be young 18-30, food looking, and ready to have a good time. Leave you. 1236

Seeking Shorter Studs

GWM, young, 40, 5'9", 155#, HIV-, balding, slath, in shape, is hot for in-shape 5'5"-5'9" tops. Lets play! 1237

Master ISO Slave

GWM seeks GWM slave for full time service. Be muscular and totally submissive, to age 45. 1238

Hairy And Well Built Man

Handsome and mostly top, wants to meet aggressive, hairy, mostly bottom man wearing something tight and brief. Dard blonde, clean shaven, 5'10", 175#, gr-gracious, love to laugh. Lets play...Hard. 1239

5 Well Endowed Black Men!!!

Thats my fantasy, to be gang banged by 5 blackmen, me: 5'8", 145# hairy chest, stache, goatee. I am your sex slave for the night. 1240

South Bay Redhead Seeks GBM

GWM, 6', 175#, 36, masculine, hairy chest, goatee, stache, seeks San Jose area GBM, top for sexual encounters. Tall and/or hung, a+. 1241

Potrero Hillbilly Seeks Filipino

Asian, Vietnamese U/S top. Looks age unimportant. V/A attitude a+. All you can drink in exchange for all I can recycle. Call now!! 1242

Mutual Oral Pleasure

GWM, 45 y/o, HIV+, 5'10", 150, ruggedly handsome, healthy, work out, great kisser, seeks men (30-50 ht. w/ prop.) for mutual oral pleasures and friendship. 1243

Wanted: Older Man Of Color

Cute, bouish, WM, 37, 5'7", 135, oral, bottom, versatile, seeks safe sexual fun with African American or Latin man. Looks, unimportant, unct A+. 1244

Bigger

Asian men sought by dark, handsome caucasian: 40, fit, friendly, 160# +, natural buff preferred. Hot, discreet, very playful, plenty of time. 1246

2 French GWM 28-32 Years Old

In SF wanted american GWM 25/35 for go out and speak English. 1248

Prostate Massage

GWM seeks GM who enjoys having his inner organ rubbed, stroked, and massaged. Im 51, 5'8", 175, br/blu, beard, HIV-, 1249

Spanking Fantasies

Light and sensual to heavy. Novices welcome. Sex optional but preferred. Me: attr., GWM, 48, 6'5", 250#, large husky build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: attr., G(white, asian, latin), slim, nice buns. 1327

White Pussy Boy !!!

Needs well endowed black man for regular sucking & fucking. Me: 5'8", 145, hairy chest stache, you: big dick for white pussy. 1433

Hairy Ass Bisex Iranian Man

Goodlooking gr/eyes, goate, muscular, huge nipples looking for top into the art of stretching a virgin ass. 1328

Young Men

WM, 27, 6'1", 170#. Goodlooking, gentle, athletic, masculine top. HIV-, seeks cute, slim, smooth, younger guys for tender kissing, fucking. White, Asian, boys a+. Be HIV-, safe. 1330

Fellatio, Effluage, And Petrissage (massage)

in my home wnted by voluptuous European 56. I have table, aromatherapy, candlelight, bells, chimes, silk sheets and satyrasis. 1332

Wanted: Big Hairy Firm Butt

Well built aggressive, fit, hung big, needs wellbuilt WM (20s-30s) with big firm hairy butt to eat and fuck. 1430

Oakland Guy

WM, 33, HIV+, healthy, seeks other positive guys for mutual j/s and oral. Not into the club scene, so we can party at my place. Shaved a+. 1333

Bear Boy Sks Big Bear Meat

39/63/200#, bottom ready for well hung, horny tops who enjoy filling a hungry bottom. All well hung welcome. 1334

L, XL, or XXXL Meat?

37-62-195, hot bottom puts it all to good use. Deep throat and hungry bubble butt await hung men. Hot bottom serves all hung. 1335

Boyfriend/Hung Top HIV Wanted

Cute, 40, 6'3", 185#, br/gm, mustache, lightly hairy, bottom, HIV+, handsome, horny, affectionate, (650) area. You: top-man, 35-45, handsome, height/weight appropriate, well hung, hairy, uncut ok, smoker ok, honest and sincere a must. You won't be sorry. 1336

Seeking Playmate Top

For GWM, hairy, football build, into all ass play and kink, top requested to be 50 or younger, experienced preferred, well endowed, smooth, light to no hair. Playroom and leather a plus. Gay White, Black or Latino males, please respond. 1337

Hot Leatherboy/Urinal in/Top Bod ISO

Lean total leather top/bulldaddy for training, w/s, hose downs, urinal duty, diaper discipline, sucking/pin/stapin/bondage/hoods, public scenes, denigration, humiliation, control. Dungeon/playroom, LTR a big plus Sir! 1338

How Much Can You Shoot

How much ever shoot before? Just let me know on your nice hard meat and we'll see find out. Your outfit (if any) remains stain free. I swallow the evidence! 1339

Strict Disciplinarian Needed

By Asian 51 y/o, 5'7", 145#, healthy, trim. Needs regular discipline, spking, prolonged TT U B W/H 35-60 y/o, very clean room and leather a plus. Gay White, Black or Latino males, please respond. 1340

Seeking Lubduddy Bottoms/Tops

For guys or single HIV-. Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma co., first time, mature married, daytime, your place, plenty of liquid aroma. Jocks, pits, holes, etc. 1341

Pussy Boy Wanted

Hot dad, 49, in shape, 6', 195#, 46"/chest, 15" arms, 33" w/ 1/2. Time to purr and twitch. 1342

Looking For Young Sex Partner

27 VGL, GWM, 5'10", 165#, blkr, gym-toned, seeks 20-30 y/o, smooth, must be VGL, & in good shape. U do my fantasies, I do yours. 1343

Suck Off And More

Your cock in my mouth. My tongue in your slit hole. Your bladder full of piss. Your balls full of daytime. Asians & Latins especially. Same day/night call back. 1349

Discreet Bi-WM

Handsome, 45. Seeks other Bi-WMs, fit, 25-40, first timers ok. No recip. 1341

Got A Hot Ass

GWM 5'11", 170, HIV-, N/S/N/D, like sack rock and get fucked like 7" to watch. Age & race unimportant. Videos to suck. Call. 1432

ISO Expert Cocksucker

GWM, top, br, hzl, 180, 5'11", smooth, nice pouch. ISO: While or Latin expert deep throat cocksucker w/excellent gag control, to take my load, extended servicing, clean, serious. 1434

Sanoma County Oral Virtuoso

For slender-medium guys, 18-35, regular, daytime, no reciprocation expected. I'm middle age, attractive, healthy, relaxed, generous. Initially meet someplace public, no obligations. Love domination by cat, smooth boy-type. 1331

Newly Single Bottom

Attractive, masculine, GBM, 32, 5'6", 145#. I need to suck some dick. Long haired, Haight St. whiter guys desired. Under 35. Great head, tight ass. 1329

Hot XX-Hung Blonde Top

Seeks xx-hung smooth bottoms. I'll give you A+ head, then use your dicks at a kickstand & fuck you right!! 1448

Older Men Wanted

GWM, HIV-, 110#, 5'2", stache, 55yo, with very hot hairy tight little ass, need fingers, hands or cock's. Also have 7" cock and nice ball's that need be stretched hard. Please be adventurous & horny. 1435

Wanted GAM

To work my tight little ass slow and sensual and deep. Most guys's hands are to big and can't get in. I need to get it in front and rear at the same time. I'm 55y, 5'2", 115#, stache, HIV-. GWM. You must like F.F, CBT, and kinky procedures. I need it all. 3 ways? OK!! 1436

Hung Tops-Fuck This

Cute GBM, 5'8", 145#, tight deep fresh hole needs pounding by big fat dick (slightly ruff ok). U cute, muscular, 9"+ (or XX thick), with stamina, 3 ways ok, out. 1437

ISO Poz LeatherDad

Gay, handsome, 5'7", 135#, smooth, muscular swimmer, seeks 40-50, clean, muscular, hairy butt-cheeked Dad with restraints and mild flogger to party all night for multiple servings. 1438

Hot Latino Guy Like's To Suck

And get fucked, Redwood City Area under 45, please call. 1439

ISO River Area Handball Buddy

Insatiable bottom masculine outdoor guy gives it up to expert top who knows muncunt. Be experienced safe, sane, intelligent, HIV neg. 1440

A Hole You Can Use

Masc, GBM, slim, trim, 38, 5'11", 150#, goatee, uninhibited, with a hole you can use your way. Buddy fucks or I on 1. You, HIV/WI prop. & you're ready to fuck now. 1441

Always's Horny? Get Sucked!

Well-hung, trim cauc., guys kick back for slow sensuous blowjobs. Hot mouth & tongue takes ur big loads, multiple loads A+. 1442

Cum Onna My House

Escape roommates, wives, girlfriends. Slim, well-hung cauc. studs kick back for sensuous blow job on my private, secluded massage table. Hot mouth takes ur load. 1443

Ever Wish You Had 3 Good...

Buddies to fuck around with. Sexual affiliation group forming. Qualifications include fetishes, looks, and being truly open-minded. Call for a phone interview. 1444

Boot Pigs Boot Worship

Men into boots sought for hot private boot worship parties. Boot boys, but pigs, boot masters. All welcome. 1445

Dad Train This Pussy Boy

To be your sex slave. Boy 38, GWM, 5'7", 140#, shaved head, mustache, goatee and tattoos. 1446

Strip Search

Slender playdolls amateur cup wants to order you around if you are masculine with a lean build and under 40. I'm 41 with a goatee and a nicely chiseled 7 incher. 1447

Just Shut-Up And Ride!

WM, 33, 5'10", 200#, 8/1blu, muscle hunk (48", 33" w/18") wants good-looking masculine men to pump, or get pumped, full of squirt, anytime. 1449

Endless Oral

Masculine GWM, 45, 6', 185#, healthy, pos, balding/buzz, h/wt, proportionate, gym, hung, videos. ISO similar for mutual expert oral. You: thin to muscular, NS, Polk area A+. 1450

Hung Oakland Black Man 45

Enjoy receiving an expert bj often. Please no indirect phone's, beads or goates, curious novices. Sincere, available, masculine experts only. All races. Mustache essential. 1451

Hot Duo Seek Third Sex Buddy

Hung top, hungry bottom seeking hung top to versatile. Us: 30s, goodlooking in-shape white studs. U: hairy big, decent shape, ready 2 play. 1452

Asways Horny? Get Sucked!!

Slim, well-hung cauc., guys kick back for slow, sensuous blow-jobs on my secluded massage table. Hot mouth sucks ur load. Blue-eyed brunettes A+. 1453

Big Nipple Daddy Bottom Pig

Want big partner for daytime play my place. U8 GWM, same time. 1454

Black Men Of Marin City

If you need love, affection and sex, guide me to your city. I am GWM, obedient bottom that needs to be dominated and shared by other blackmen. 1454

Oral SVC For Asian Men

I.F., GWM, 45, 6'1", 190#, handsome, delivers complete oral service to trim, mature, masculine Asian men. HIV-. No reciprocation required. 1455

8 Inches Wants A Tight Fit?

Hot friendly bottoms, are you ready to play? With 8 thick uncut inches on a black top who is inshape, hairy and loves to be cut in the right places. 1526

Saint Caligula

GM ISO White or Latin hung studs, sex, soccer, wrestling, Me, 22, 5'6", 150#, muscular. You: 18-32, and in very good shape. (HIV-) only. 1527

Top Man Seeks Hot Young Head

WM 40s HIV- very masculine inshape dominant top seeks submissive HIV- boy under 30 with cum hungry deep throat into older men for long sessions at your place. 1528

ISO Young Leather Slave Novice

Expert Sonoma County leather master seeks submissives 18-35 for comprehensive training. All scenes. I can take you where you want to go! Safe sane HIV-UB2. 1529

Will You Be Number 19,998?

To achieve my cocksucking expertise, I've trained on 19,997. So I know how. You'll: A shoot your max. B aspire to # 19,999 (Book now for landmark # 20,000!) 1530

Wanted: Versatile Boy 18-28

I am versatile 35GWM attractive, looking for fun, sex, and who knows. Let's have fun. 1531

Mature Mexican Masculine Dad

Seeks a young looking discreet and hot head. Age, looks, race, unimportant, just need it bad! Like you only fantasize but haven't found! Uncut, HIV-, Latino, juicers A+, East Bay. 1532

Hot Action Wanted

23 GWM 5'7", 130#, 8 cut, blond blue: Young, hot and very versatile. Looking to service (more?) muscular mexicans, latinos and black men. 18-30. Cut okay, uncut a real plus. 1533

Kick Back!

GWM 5'11", 160#, br/hr, chn shaven, fun, friendly, love to suck cock and ball's. Seek masc., trim, GWM, 18-40. Let me play with you. 1535

GBM Seeking WM Bodybuilders

Types: Me: muscular, 6', 210, looking for safe fun with big, stocky or muscular guys. Very masculine and like the same. Let's have some fun!! 1536

Spread Your Legs

Open your mouth and say ahhh. I'm a handsome muscular Italian who loves sex. I have a wide range of men I like. David. 1537

Wanted: Well-Endowed Men

Goodlooking GWM, 35, 6', 185#, and HIV+, seeks goodlooking guys who are well endowed, 20-35, enjoy sex, and have free time to have fun. All nationalities welcome. Leave your # 1538

Hot Piece Of Ass To Fuck

If you are thin and have a hard, defined physique and love to get fucked, then this 6'1", 190#, 44 y/o, fit, muscular guy would love to provide you with hours of hot, steamy pleasure! 1539

Gay Seeks Fun

I am GWM 30ish, goodlooking, energetic, and deaf guy seek to take entertainment plus sport. I love swimming, hiking, camping, rent VCR movies, bicycling, skiing, tennis, racquet, weightlifting to stay fit. I love to share laughter and good food. Please no screaming female, barfly, ND and NS. I am attracted to Homers with wolf howls. If you are reading up to this point, please call and let's see if we can go out and have blast time!!! 1540

FETISHES**Daddies N2 FF W Facial Hair**

Need ongoing spiritual revelation w/veil, versatile top. GWM/GWM, HIV+, N2 dildos, TT, FF, Me, GBM, 6'1", 200#, sht, s/p hair and goatee. Need soulmate. 15250

Hairy Men Get Me Hot. Real Hot

Cum 2 SoCal & I'll ream & cream UR juicy, hot throat & butt all w/end. Down & dirty, sweaty, cumy, NHB man stuff. VGL hry. XUSN WM, br/buzzot, 47, Irish (007SC type), 6', 160#. U: cumdumping. Up 4 it? Cum down. 1251

Hairy Daddy Bear Will Work Balls

Hairy daddy bear 50, 5'11", 220#, 6 1/2" UC, very hairy, looking for boy balls to manipulate to ecstasy. You must enjoy working foreskin. 1252

ISO The Feminine Touch

Masculine LM 42, 6', 155#, moderately hry. ISO younger effeminate looking/acting man to give me slow sensual oral pleasure all over, no SM, BD, or pain. 1253

Bad Spankings For Bad Boys

By muscular top. Novices ok. Limits respected & expanded. If you're reading this ad, you know you need it! Over my knee-now!! All calls returned. 1254

Rimseat Service For Raunch Top

Masculine, very muscular, smooth, nasty, bottom seeks scat/piss top (top & under 45 only) for intense toilet training & service. 1344

Whack It!!!

Mature daddy seeks younger (that's most anyone) for JD. Interested in having a nice time with a pleasant man. Affectionate-fun-relaxed. 1345

2 Drag Queens Wanted 1st Time

2 drag queens wanted 1st time me: Bi-Hm, 50-seeks drag-queens, black nylons, & phone suck, fuck sessions. 1346

Seeks Nipple Pig For Hot Fun

GWM, 43, HIV+, smoker, 5'10", 190#, br/hr, goatee, seeks serious nipple pig for mutual action-suck, pump, weights, the bigger the better. Cowboy boots & blond hair a+. Be sincere. 1347

Bondage For Bodybuilders

WM, late 40's, wants to see your muscles flex and strain as I tie you up and play with your pecs, cock, balls, until you cum! 1349

Raw Fuck/Fist Top/Vers. Wanted

By This masculine, handsome WM. Me: 36, 5'9", 170#, versatile. I'm looking for regular sessions with a fit, smooth armed top, 18-35. Asians A+. 1456

Expert Deepthroat Wanted

Well endowed, uncut BM wants male who can take it all! All looks, age and race unimportant. Just be exceptionally talented and live in city. Suck and swallower A+, your place. 1457

Devoted Nutsuckers

Suck and tongue my smooth pair. Butt rimmers welcome too. Reward: Huge meat. Your age, looks unimportant, but dedication to ball/ass worship is. 1458

Here Ye, Mountain Bears & Pigs

Hungry-n-beefy GWM/GWM HIV+, N2, T+1, dildos, FF, and bondage. Lev/leather. Me: GBM, 205#, 6'1", versatile top. Lets slip and slide, slurpees, candles!!! 1459

HotGuyW/ToringsSksFootBuddy

Masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe J/O fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles. Further friendship welcomed. 1460

Versatile Rugged Leather Pig

Seeks rugged rockhard beefy, big dick muscle buddies for intense, nasty, raunchy, rough sweaty sex! 1461

Tool Time W/Husky Bears & Pigs

Out There

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cording to the Boze.

Anyway, we hope for Mr. Hadleigh's sake, eternal host **Alec Trebek** unveils *Jeopardy!* categories like "Innuendo About Fossils of the Movie Industry," or "Old School Heartthrobs." We know we'll be tuning in to watch the fun.

More adventures in Hi-Fi

We would need a whole nuther column to keep track of all the reported sightings of that cute rock star **Michael Stipe**, who's in town reportedly making a new album. He's been seen making the hipster scene at the Pilsner, shopping for yummy organic munchables at Rainbow Grocery, even showing up at a recent faerie house party.

Who's that charming Southern waif, new in town, who's been trailing around with Stipe, and spotted together at filmmaker **Eric Slade's** party? We hear he works at a "bookstore" named for a cat. Is it a passing fling for the R.E.M.ster, or True Romance? Out There wants to know.

Sushi riot

The "Near Future" opening at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts last weekend was a mob scene of young things dressed in black, thanks to the thousands of comps with which sponsor *Surface* magazine flooded the populace. If only the attractions hadn't been so meager. The Skyy martinis did hit the spot, but the monstrous queue to get a tiny sample in a plastic cup looked like a dressy *Titanic* line, and moved about as fast. Not

even to mention the abysmal *hors d'oeuvres* situation. Put something ultra-desirable like sushi out in a small enclosed space, add hungry hordes of chic partygoers, and you have a recipe for disaster. We thought the slender young woman in front of us would surely be trampled to death between the *nigiri* and the *wasabi*.

The Yerba Buena Center was chock-a-block with young models (mee-yod-els) in serious party clothes. It was a babe fest: we guess we don't hang around many 20-yr.-old straight gals, but we were astonished at the amount of deep-dish cleavage on display, along with worked-out upper bodies, in shiny strapless dresses. Is this the millennial aesthetic? **Hera Caen** says the look is somewhere between gun moll and trapeze artiste. Since the advent of **Monica**, it seems to be okay to say, "Yes!" to your inner bimbo.

Not many celebs to report. Look, there's chanteuse **Veronica Klaus**—she's got a new CD out. Look, there's art critic "**Dave**" **Bonetti**, treating new publicity associate **Chris Culwell** to a much-deserved Cosmopolitan. They're both the Cosmo type.

A camp nightmare

Two larger-than-life stage icons, **Bette Midler** and **Nathan Lane**, are scheduled to start production May 18 on a movie about the late great schlockmeister **Jacqueline Susann**. Midler will play the legendary author of *Valley of the Dolls*, and Lane will play her husband, **Irving Mansfield**. The screenplay was written by **Paul Rudnick**, who also wrote *In & Out*, *Addams Family Values*, and *Jeffrey*, so you know it will be a camper's dream.

Still, we can't help wondering if it might be more appropriate for Lane to play Ms. Susann's famed poodle, **Josephine**. Henpecked hubby or pampered lapdog? You decide. ▼

2017

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the joint briefly starts jumping to a rap number, it turns out to be a parody of the foulest of the genre.

And so it falls to the text to carry the evening, and here the results are mixed. Some of the pieces are told in verse, which can lead to such rhymes as, "At first we used protection, but it affected Frank's erection." Many of the vignettes do begin promisingly, but often lack the form for dramatic payoff. In fact, the whole production could stand to be tightened, as energies leak away during frequent scene changes.

The talented, versatile cast of five provides the show with its brightest polish. Ajuana Nzinga glows in a number of roles, from a deceptively demure woman at a nightclub to an HIV-positive immigrant from Dominica. Writer-director Will Power is also seen to good advantage in several roles, including an old convict, and a forlorn hoopster lamenting the empty basketball courts. Peter Macon gets his best showcases as a dancer who contracts AIDS, and as a little boy who worries about his mother's health. Aisha Bilal and Gaida Nkruma ably complete the cast.

2017 is designed to deliver a safe-sex message in a provocative way. The message comes through, even if the method is sometimes lacking. ▼

2017 will run at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre through March 22. Tickets are \$15. Call 474-8800.

MASSAGE

Hot & Naked Complete Body Massage. Great location & price relaxed. Sexy, warm, sensual, Thom 561-9560 ^{E12}

I strive to achieve

EXCELLENCE

In life and my full body erotic massage is no exception! I am very defined, handsome, blond gymnast. \$45 Kevin 864-1190 ^{E12}

MODEL

Expert massage for photo shoot for a bodywork manual called *Erotic Body Prayer* by Kirk Prime, EdD, CMT. Photography will be done by Vince Gabrielly. Model must be lean/muscular and hairy from any ethnic background. *415-552-7417 ^{E12}

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Friendly Swedish-Sensual rub. Full Body & Head-Neck-Butt Detail. \$50. \$65 out. Gene 650 875-9463

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Sensual Deep-Tissue Bodywork by Handsome, caring, gifted male. 10yrs exp. Located Potrero Hill Info/Appt VM 415-339-8620 Davis ^{E13}

Slender, sexy, friendly young Latin

PERSONAL CARE

Relaxing, playful, nude, complete 5 yrs exp. \$50 Out/SF only Kelly Pgr-764-5581 ^{E12}

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ITALIAN TOUCH

510-433-7012 ^{E15}

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Naked Bodywork Polk St. @ Bush 415-771-8518 \$40 ^{E15}

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Magical healing full body massage tailored to your needs office or out 510-433-4701 415-597-1992 Recently called? Plz call corrected # ^{E12}

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CMT Swedish-Sensual 487-6615

Latin grad student ^{E13}

BERARCBUT MASSAGERUB

Tim 6'2", 210# deeptissue, 232-1723 ^{E12}

RELEASE!

Tension into the hands of a Muscular Bodyworker Rick 415-303-2895 ^{E16}

Caring and friendly Asian with strong hands provides deep and Full-body massage. Ben 487-6603 ^{E14}

GET IT YOUR WAY

Big strong muscular E Bay man Gives very sensual, very erotic full body massage. Want to play with me? Harry 510-595-0924 ^{E12}

Brad 715-6410 Great Touch!

SF HOTEL CALLS 24 HR

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DAVE 567-7693 ^{E13}

SOOTHING MASSAGE

Great hands give relief!! 100% relaxation. George 510-832-6326 ^{E12}

Light but hot touch (Buttwork incl.) In the nude by 5'9" wildly hairy guy I come to you/plan ahead, Pg698-0407 ^{E12}

BUFFED CANADIAN

Quality nude massage by handsome muscular male 6'4", 200#. Available thru April 1st Ian Pgr 792-2942 Outcalls only ^{E13}

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MEMENTO MORI

Remembering Leonie Rysanek

by Stephanie von Buchau

When Leonie Rysanek, the Austrian diva who died March 7 in Vienna at the age of 71, got to the Pearly Gates, I'll bet the guy in charge asked her to sing "In questa reggia." *Turandot* was the opera Rysanek sang only three times, for the San Francisco Opera in 1957. I was there because my mother had kept me from returning to school on time so I could fortify myself with a dose of opera.

As Rysanek later said, her voice was too warm and her personality too sensual for the role of the princess who disdained love, and she dropped the part from her rep. She also never sang Brünnhilde, Isolde or Elektra on stage (though she made a fabulous film of the latter with Götz Friedrich). Here her excuse was that Birgit Nilsson, her only peer in the *Hochdramatische* Strauss-Wagner *Fach*, could do it better.

The Viennese-born soprano with the Hapsburg coloring (blue eyes, russet hair) made her professional debut as Agathe in 1949 in Innsbruck and first came to international prominence when she appeared as Sieglinde at the 1951 Bayreuth Festival. In 1956 she made her American opera debut in San Francisco as Senta, then her signature role. Wagner's dreamy, ready-to-die-for-love Norwegian girl suited Rysanek's rapt intensity perfectly, as did those soaring high Bs that reduced us to jelly.

Rysanek's Metropolitan Opera debut followed in 1959, when she replaced the fired Maria Callas in *Macbeth*, bringing down the house with her secure high notes and Italianate thrust. After more than a decade away from the War Memorial, Rysanek returned to San Francisco in the '70s for *Tannhäuser*, *Tosca*, *Salome* (she shared that role with Anja Silja; who says there were no "good old days?"), *Chrysothemis* (in *Elektra*), and the Empress in *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. The 1976 *Frau* was conducted by Karl Böhm, but more memorable for this listener was the 1980 performance with Nilsson as the Dyer's wife. The two of them on stage together in *Walküre*, *Elektra* and *Frau* were like a double-dip with sprinkles.

Hysterical ovations

Toward the end of her nearly four-decade career, Rysanek sang Klytemnestra, the Kostelnicka (in *Jenufa*) and the ancient Countess in *Queen of Spades*. She made farewells in this latter role in San Francisco (1993) and New York (1996), garnering lengthy, hysterical ovations. Apparently she knew by the time of her Met farewell that she was mortally ill, but told no one. It would be characteristic of this singer that she wanted recognition for her art and not for her medical condition.

Rysanek had a big ego—conversations with her were sometimes hilariously one-sided—but she was smart enough in the face of her great gifts not to make stupid career choices. She never pandered or "crossed over." (*Nabucco's* Abigail was forced on her by the Met's Rudolf Bing, and they both regretted it when several seasons of vocal distress followed, resulting in death threats and Bing temporarily banning the standees.) The only other singer of her generation who lasted as long and made as few career mistakes is the Spanish tenor Alfredo Kraus.

Despite her reputation as a stage animal, sensual, charismatic and dramatic to a flaw—Sieglinde's shrieks and *Tosca's* scenery-chewing were too much even for this devoted idolater—Rysanek was a supremely musical artist who worked happily with the greatest conductors: Furtwängler, Karajan, Böhm, Levine. She taught two generations of opera-lovers that communicating with your audience doesn't mean betraying the composer, dumbing down, or compromising your art. She craved our love, and she earned it, forever. *Seligste Frau*. ▼



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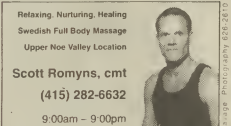
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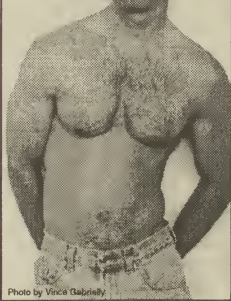
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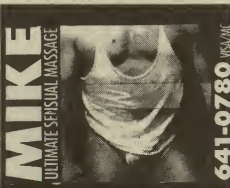
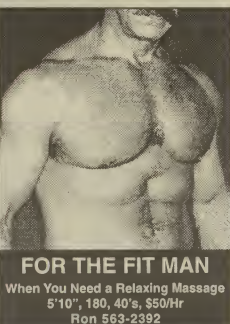


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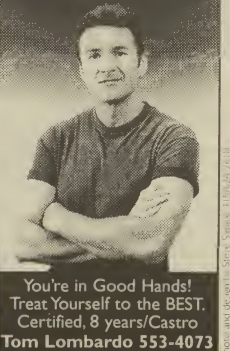
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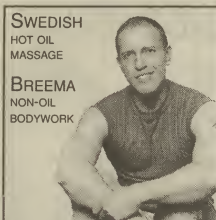


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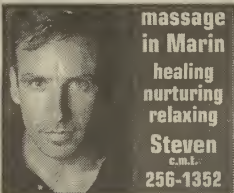
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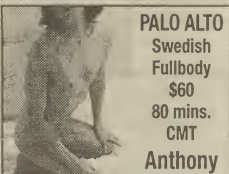
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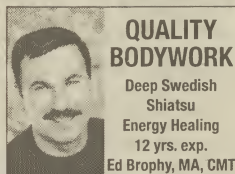
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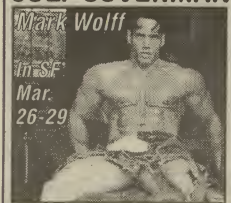
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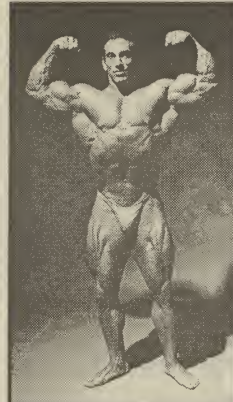
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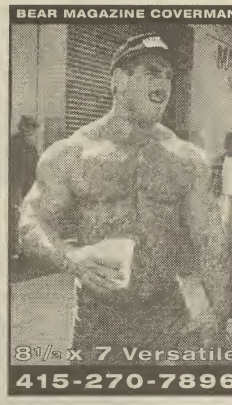
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By goodlooking 26yo, very friendly
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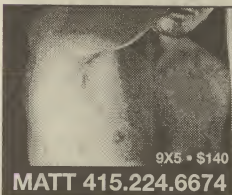
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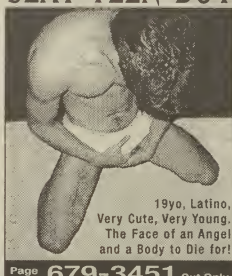
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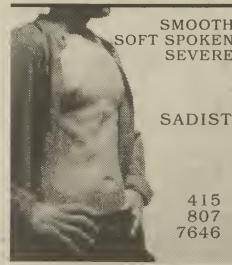
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MIKE, 30, 5'10" 200#, Bld/Blu
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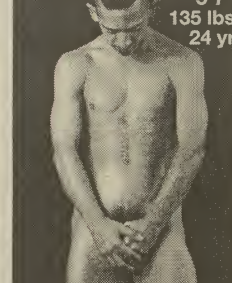
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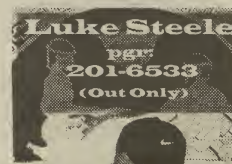


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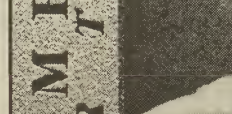
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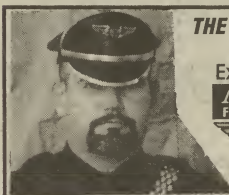
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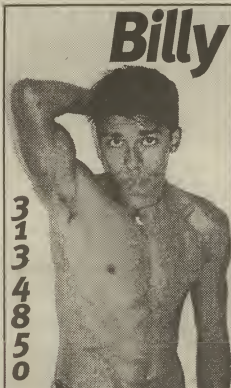
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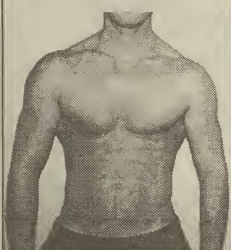
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Clean cut 6'3" 185# blnd/blu hairy well equipped and great balls Call Chase 24hrs Pgr 280-1651 E13

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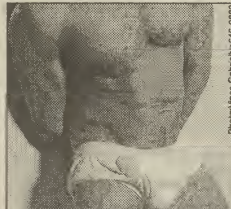
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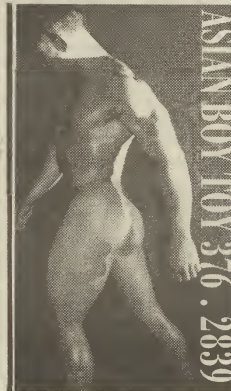
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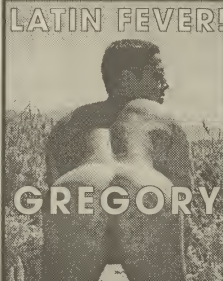
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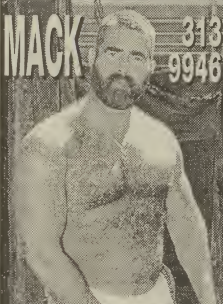
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BUILD, 3" UNCUT

MACK 313-9946



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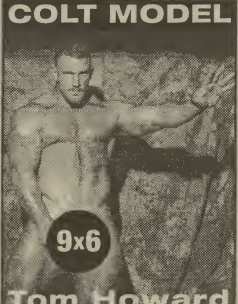


5'8" 300 30X 64-44 32B 8" OUT 160 OUT

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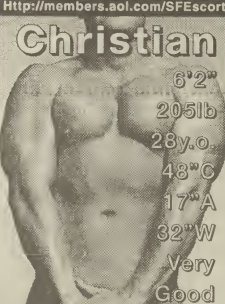


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Versatile
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Christian

6'2"
205lb
28y.o.
48°C
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32"W
Very
Good
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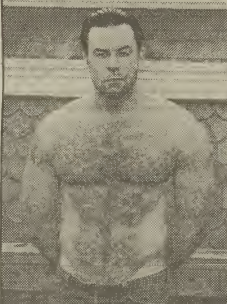


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No ads taken over the
telephone. If you have a
question, call 415.861.5019.
Display advertising rates
available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge
on Visa and MasterCard.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

MAIL WITH
PAYMENT TO:

BAY AREA
REPORTER
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA
94103

OR FAX TO:
415.861.8144

Indicate
Type Style
Here ▼

X-BOLD Stops Here ▼

BOLD Stops Here ▼

CAPS Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

Hard core

★Nasty★

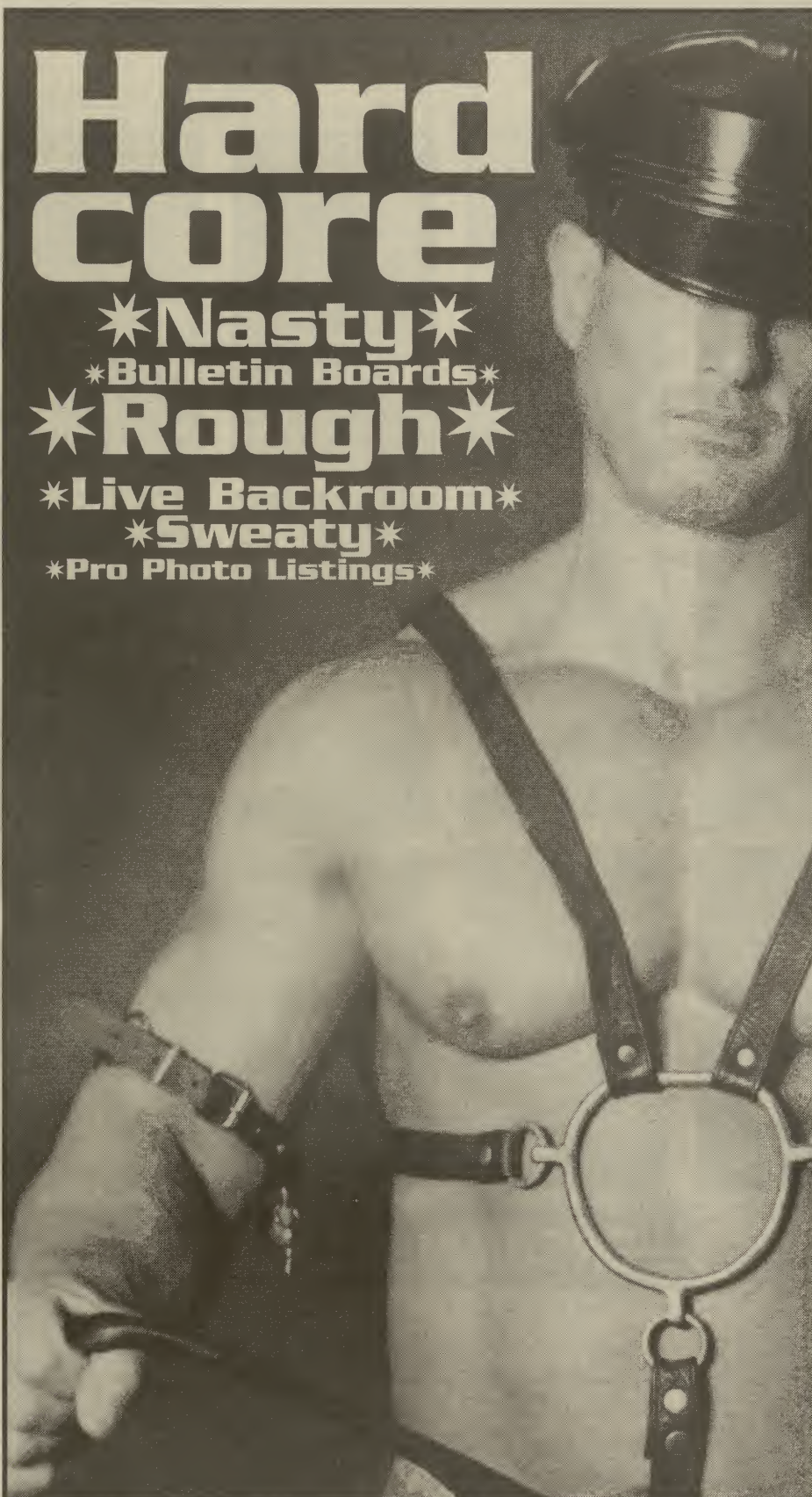
★Bulletin Boards★

★Rough★

★Live Backroom★

★Sweaty★

★Pro Photo Listings★



1-900-505-3333

\$2.40 for 24 hours



415-398-1616

\$3.99 for 48 hours



FREE List/Mail Pick Up

415-398-1616 ★ 415-398-2600

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